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Incorporated under "The Companies' Act, 1862."

Capital, £4,000,000, in 80,000 shares of £50 each.

Deposit on application, £1 per share; and £4 on allotment. Further calls will not exceed £5 per share, made at intervals of not less than three months, and will extend over a period of three years. It is estimated that not more than two-thirds of the total capital will be required to be called up.

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Offices, pro tem.—27, Great George-street, Westminster, and
7, Laurence Pountney-hill, City.

The company is formed for the purpose of carrying into effect an agreement made for the purchase of the under-mentioned coal, iron, and other works, which have for a long time been carried on with very satisfactory results by private individuals, and are capable of considerable expansion with greatly increased profits.

The properties and works have been purchased on very favourable terms, on valuations made by eminent mining engineers.

The works consist of:—

1. The Ebbw Vale Collieries and Iron Works.

2. The Sirhowy Collieries and Iron Works.

3. The Victoria Collieries and Iron Works.

4. The Abercromby Collieries and Iron Works.

5. The Pontypool Collieries and Iron and Tin-plate Works.

6. The Abercromby Collieries and the Chapel Farm Estate.

7. Wharves and landing stages at Newport.

All in the county of Monmouth.

8. Haematite Iron and Coal Galeages or Royalties in the Forest of Dean, in the county of Gloucester.

9. The Brendon Hills Carbonate of Iron or Spathose Mines, in the county of Somerset.

And the estates comprise:—

3,254 acres of freehold land and mines.

7,215 acres of leasehold mines, and agreements for leases having upwards of eighty years unexpired.

2,187 acres of leasehold mines, having from ten to fifty years unexpired.

700 acres of mines in the Forest of Dean, held under a Crown lease, renewable in perpetuity for periods of twenty-one years.

About nine miles in length, or about 3,000 acres, on the course of the Spathose Iron Ore veins, in Somersetshire, under leases for about fifty years unexpired.

The leasehold coal and iron-stone Royalties are held on very moderate terms.

There are upwards of 2,000 houses and cottages on the freehold and leasehold estates.

The rentals from land, farms, and houses, amount to about £14,000 a-year.

The works afford employment to more than 15,000 persons, representing a population of 50,000 people.

Schools for the accommodation of 2,200 children and a mechanics' institute have been erected upon the estate.

There are 23 blast furnaces, of which 16 are in operation at the present time, three being cold blast.

The present annual produce of the various collieries is 850,000 tons of coal, and this quantity can, with a comparatively small outlay, be increased to 1½ million tons annually.

The produce of ironstone is 280,000 tons annually, which can be increased to 450,000 tons.

The iron-making coals on these properties are of a superior quality, free from sulphur, and eminently adapted for the manufacture of the best class of iron or steel.

The present annual yield from the furnaces is about 130,000 tons of pig-iron, including 12,000 tons of Pontypool cold blast, but the arrangements are adapted for the production of 180,000 tons. About 90,000 tons of rails and finished iron are sold annually, which can be increased to 120,000 tons with the present appliances.

All the properties are very favourably placed in regard to situation of works and facilities of transport. The coal and ironstone mines, which are now drained and proved, will supply the present consumption, without any material increase of dead charges or outlay of capital, for upwards of fifty years; and with a small outlay, will yield a further supply of 600,000 tons of coal per annum, for household and steam purposes, for a like period.

The haematite iron ore and coal properties held in the Forest of Dean will shortly be opened, and placed in direct communication by railway with the various iron works—the distances between which and the place of production will be from twenty-five to forty-two miles only; whilst this class of ore is now carried to the works 350 miles by water and thirty miles by rail.

The Forest of Dean ore contains from 35 to 42 per cent. of iron, and is well known for its superior quality over other haematite ores for the manufacture of the best iron and steel.

It is estimated that, when fully opened, the mines now held by the company will produce 100,000 tons annually for fifty years.

The very extensive and valuable mines of spathose iron ore,

in Somersetshire, belonging exclusively to the company, are the only mines of their kind now being worked in Great Britain (excepting the small veins found in the Durham lead mines). When these mines are fully developed, the works of the company will possess advantages greater than any other works, in the supply of this most valuable material for the manufacture of the best quality of iron and steel. And the cost of producing spiegeleisen (pig-iron) with this ore will not exceed half the present cost of spiegeleisen delivered in England from Germany, which country furnishes the whole of the supply required for the present consumption.

The directors have agreed for a license for the manufacture of steel by the Bessemer process, which, from the peculiar resources they possess, they will be enabled to produce in very large quantities and at a price that, in comparison with other works, will insure to them the same advantages in the manufacture of steel rails as the Ebbw Vale Company have so long enjoyed in respect of iron rails.

The stocks of material and finished iron will be taken at the cost price, as entered in the books at the last stock-taking in September, 1863, and are to be paid for within six months.

The contracts on hand, which are large, and at remunerative prices, will be transferred to the new company.

Mr. Abraham Darby, the principal proprietor and managing partner of the whole of the concerns comprised in the present purchase, will undertake the duties of Chairman of the Board, and has consented to act as Managing Director for a period of five years, thereby securing to the new company the benefit of his long practical experience in the management of the works.

Mr. Joseph Robinson, also a proprietor in all the above concerns, and who for many years, as the London partner, has had the principal management of their commercial operations, will, under the direction of the Board, conduct the business of the company, as heretofore.

From certified reports on the profits of the various works, extending over a considerable period, and from a due consideration of the advantages possessed by the company, the directors feel justified in anticipating that the annual dividends will be such as to give satisfaction to the shareholders.

The vendors will subscribe for shares in the company to the extent of half a million sterling.

Three hundred thousand pounds of the purchase money will be paid within two months, and the remainder by six equal half-yearly instalments, with interest of 5 per cent. paid.

No promotion money or other similar payment will be made.

Forms of application for shares may be obtained at the Bank of England and its several branches, from the broker, or from the undersigned, by whom any further information required will be furnished.

CHADWICK, ADAMSON, M'KENNA, and CO.,
Financial Agents,
27, Great George-street, Westminster, and
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THE EBBW VALE COMPANY (Limited).
Capital £4,000,000, in 80,000 shares of £50 each.

FORM OF APPLICATION for ALLOTMENT of SHARES.

No.

TO THE DIRECTORS OF THE EBBW VALE COMPANY (Limited).

Per Messrs. Chadwick, Adamson, M'Kenna and Co., Financial Agents, 27, Great George-street, Westminster, and 64, Cross-street, Manchester.

GENTLEMEN,—Having paid a deposit of £1 per share, I beg to apply for shares of £50 each, in the proposed Ebbw Vale Company (Limited), and I hereby agree to become a shareholder in that company, subject to its rules and regulations, and to accept such shares, or any less number that may be allotted to me.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

Name in full

Address in full

Profession and occupation

Date

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43	15	500	£ s. d. 196 11 3	£ s. d. 96 9 2	£ s. d. 596 9 2
24	16	600	208 4 0	107 14 6	707 14 6
35	17	500	235 8 4	105 17 2	605 17 2
48	17	600	253 1 3	130 17 0	630 17 0
38	15	1,000	£ s. d. 343 15 0	£ s. d. 180 3 11	£ s. d. 1,180 3 11
32	17	300	133 13 3	60 10 0	360 10 0
29	16	500	188 0 0	94 10 9	594 10 9
38	17	800	163 17 0	65 11 3	865 11 3

Prospectuses and all needful information may be obtained on application to

ALFRED LENCH SAUL, Secretary.

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VERSUS COGNAC BRANDY.

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etail houses in London; by the appointed agents in the

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and cork, branded "Kinahan's LL Whisky."

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"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 975.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1864.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE THIRD READING OF THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.

OUR readers must, we should think, have been not only surprised, but agreeably surprised, at the incidents which occurred in connection with Mr. Dodson's Bill on Wednesday and on Friday last.

We had, and with good reason, led our readers to anticipate that when the Bill was fairly in committee amendments would be proposed of a character which would destroy the most valuable feature of the measure, and we have never indulged in the expectation that such amendments would be defeated. But the Opposition, after preparing to take the course which it was assumed they would take, appear to have resolved on a different line of tactics. They might have succeeded in dividing the Liberal party, and thereby inflicting upon it prospective damage; while they, at the same time, secured the abandonment of the Bill, by reducing it into a shape which, it was known, would have made it unacceptable to the majority of its supporters. They, however, waived that advantage, and chose to make a third direct assault on the measure, in the hope that those who had supported it with a reservation in regard to amendments would withhold their support, on finding that no amendments had been carried. They succeeded, it is true, but by a majority so narrow, and under circumstances so unusual, that, while their immediate object has been effected, the prestige which, as a party, they derive from success is almost inappreciable. Indeed, it was the bitterness of their disappointment at the rejection of Sir W. Heathcote's amendment by a majority of ten which intensified Lord Robert Cecil's wonted acrimony, and prompted other members to speak, against time until fresh arrivals secured for them a majority.

We wish that the supporters of the Bill had been equally resolute, in which case they would not have allowed the fruit of previous victories to be snatched from them, just when it seemed to be firmly secured. It is a gratifying fact, no doubt, that as many as 323 members of the House of Commons have, from first to last, supported the Bill by vote or pair; but that very circumstance makes it the more discreditable that 173 other members should have found it possible to defeat the Bill after it had been read a third time, and on what is commonly the merely formal question, "that the Bill do pass." It is true that a large number of the Liberal absentees paired; but even the shortness of the interval between the passing of the Bill through committee and the third reading, scarcely suffices to account satisfactorily for the absence, unpaired, of fifty-six members who had previously been reckoned among its supporters not—to include 33 more whose names had been wanting on the previous divisions on the Bill. This may be a mere mischance, but it is one which may be set down as a misfortune for the Liberal party, and more

especially for the Government which professes to be at its head. For the Government, as a whole, however, we profess no commiseration. They would have less difficulty in carrying the Bill than their opponents had in defeating it. As many as twenty-four members of the Administration did, indeed, vote in the division of Friday night, but the Prime Minister has not once voted for the Bill, the Home Secretary walked out of the House to avoid voting, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer and the Attorney-General gave the two votes which constituted the hostile majority. The cause of Liberalism has, in fact, in this case, as in that of the Church-rate Abolition Bill, been sacrificed by Liberal Ministers. The Opposition have triumphed because they have allies on the Treasury bench.

It is, however, only in the interests of Liberalism that we thus write. The friends of religious equality have reason to be proud of such a feat as the carrying of such a Bill so nearly through such a House of Commons as the present, the first time it has been submitted for its adoption. Nor have Mr. Dodson and the other promoters of the Bill less reason to congratulate themselves on the position in which the question at issue has now been placed. It has happened now, as it did when the Oxford and Cambridge University Reform Acts were passed, that Parliament has been asked to legislate on points which have not been the subject of discussion at the hustings; and had this Bill gone to the Upper House, as it might have done, in a mutilated form, there probably would not, for years to come, have been an opportunity for any electoral dealing with the subject. Thanks, in part, to the shortsightedness of the Opposition, and thanks, to a still greater extent, to the good faith of the promoters of the Bill, that danger has been escaped. The House of Lords, also, has been denied the opportunity of contemptuously rejecting a proposal approved by but bare majorities of the Lower House, and will, we opine, be compelled, at a future day, to give it a more respectful reception than could have been hoped for at the present time. Meanwhile, another practical question has been added to the list of questions which the religious-equality party may fairly press upon the notice of those who seek their suffrages. The very closeness of the recent divisions gives increased importance to individual votes; so that no Liberal candidate can affect to treat the matter as one which may be dealt with irrespective of the wishes of Nonconformist electors. The division lists have committed to the right side the majority of those who will hoist the Liberal flag at a dissolution; while the passing of the Bill through committee, without such amendments as those hinted at by Sir George Grey and Mr. Gladstone, has, in an equal degree, committed the Liberal party to the unreserved support of the principle of which the Bill is an embodiment.

These are great advantages, and well worth the efforts which have been put forth by Mr. Dodson and his supporters. Both the Bill and its author will, at the beginning of another Session, occupy a far higher position than they could do at the beginning of the present; and if there be learned from recent occurrences that lesson of boldness and of unshrinking confidence in a great principle, which, as we think, they emphatically teach—if the Bill of 1865 surpasses that of 1864 in the enunciation of the principle to which it now indirectly, rather than directly, gives effect, and if there be on the part of all its advocates an avowed determination to scout all suggestions tending to perpetuate sectarian distinctions—if another year's campaign be fought under such circumstances, we venture to promise Mr. Dodson a degree of support of which he has had but an earnest at the outset of the struggle.

Let us, however, add that it is because we see in this measure the seeds of something far more valuable than the measure itself yields, and because the effort to carry it will bring with it some advantages which we had hardly dared at the

present time to look for, that it has to so great an extent enlisted our warmest sympathies. It has disclosed to us the fact, that there is an already considerable and fast-growing body in both the national universities who—not on any personal or narrow grounds, but on broad grounds of national policy—are as anxious that justice should be done to Nonconformists as are Nonconformists themselves. Evidently there is here common ground for united action, on the part of those who differ much in relation to matters of ecclesiastical polity. The young and generous intellect of the Church of England can here ally itself with the well-trained energy of what is derisively designated "political Dissent." Union will almost necessarily be followed, to a greater or less extent, by assimilation; or, even failing that, mutual respect will take the place of indifference or hostility. We are grateful to Mr. Dodson and "young Oxford" for this bright glimpse of the future which their Bill has given us. We have had to endure not a few defeats of late, but this last is a defeat so full of happy auguries as to be worthy to be placed among our greatest victories.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE "Epistle" of the Society of Friends touches this year, singularly enough, on hardly any of the subjects which were discussed with such unusual animation at the yearly meeting of that body. It is mainly a religious and devotional address, written in the old style of pietism, which, like old houses and old furniture, gives a rest to the spirit which it is difficult to get from the veneer, stained and plated-ware style of this advanced and polished age. The Epistle comes to us to-day fresh from a modern printing press; but excepting that it contains a slight reference to New Zealand, one feels that it should have been printed in black letter, and delivered to us, not by a red-collared postman, but by a leathern-coated carrier. While all else is changed, this Epistle, probably, has not changed for a hundred or two years.

For instance, we have nothing as to the alteration of habits in the Society, which marks an inward alteration, greater, perhaps, than the Friends themselves are aware. Samuel Fothergill did not oppose this change more decisively than it would have been rejected some quarter of a century ago by nearly every member of the Society. Nor is the condition of the Friends' schools referred to, or the tendency which was apparent at the last yearly meeting to modify the system of education which has hitherto been pursued by the body. The increased missionary spirit shown by Friends is another circumstance which has attracted the attention of those who are watching with interest the position of this people. The meetings which have been recently held by Mr. May and Mr. Dell in the Standard Theatre and other places have carried a knowledge of the principles and the spirit of the Society to thousands of people; although they have been, of course, utterly removed from any attempt at proselytism. These changes have been accompanied by two circumstances: a positive increase in the number of members of the Society—a fact which, probably, has not been reported for very many years; and, if we are correctly informed, a greatly increased interest taken in the proceedings and in the worship of the Friends by the younger members of the Society. The tendency to go off has been checked, and the Society seems about to enter on a new and prosperous period in its history. Last year sixty-one persons joined it from "convincement."

There are few of our readers who will not be glad to hear of these results. We are incompetent to pronounce on the merits of several changes which have probably had some influence in bringing them about, and we cannot say which is most consistent with the spirit

and principles of the body—the earlier or the later customs; but we should deeply regret to see a decay either of strength or numbers in this remarkable Christian society. We do not agree with Baxter, whose hatred of Baptists was only inferior to his hatred of the Friends. "I had rather," once wrote Baxter, "that men continued Separatists and Anabaptists than turned Quakers or plain apostates, and therefore would do all I can to hinder such an employing of their churches as tendeth to the more certain filling of Hell. It is better to stop them in a condition where we may have some hope of their salvation, than to let them run into certain perdition." Yet Quakerism, to use the popular term, was not essentially different in Baxter's day from that which we now see it to be. It was, however, more aggressive, and it was more repugnant to its age and generation. And this kind of writing was not likely to make converts, but very likely to provoke a very similar style from such men as Baxter:—"Woe unto you that are called lords, ladies, knights, and gentlemen, in respect to your persons! You must have your wine and all your dainty dishes, and you must have your fine apparel—silk and velvet and purple and gold and silver. The Lord abhors all your profession. Your works are the works of the devil. In your dainty dishes, in your lofty houses, in your curious buildings, in your earthly honour, which is but the fruits of the devil." The truth is, that all have become more charitable; but it must be confessed that this charity was first preached and first practised by the Friends. We have learned so much from them that we shall be glad if they can now find ought to learn from us or others.

For what purpose are bells hung in church towers? Mr. Whitworth, in his history of Manchester, says that bells being used by the Romans to signify the times of bathing, were naturally applied by the Christians of Italy to denote the hours of devotion, and to summon the people to church. This is their principal use, although, with the invention of clocks and watches, the use is now not very great. We listen to bells now for the music which they make—such music as Victor Hugo has, with such wonderful power, described in "Notre Dame," and such music as Edgar Poe has transferred to letterpress. But the vicar of Wisbeach appears to think that this is not their proper use. He apparently believes, with the old French bishop whom Southey mentions, that bells are "among the signs of the true Church," and that the Church of England is honoured with them because she is the true Church here. They are, therefore, not to be allowed to give note of their existence when a Dissenting festival is held. Such a festival—of five Sunday-schools—was held in Wisbeach last week. The Dissenters wished the bells—a third of the cost of which they had defrayed—to be rung on this occasion, but the vicar flatly refused to give his permission. A meeting has, therefore, been held in the town, and the vicar condemned with the vociferous cheers of a crowded and enthusiastic audience. The vicar is, of course, legally right; but, as Mr. Alderman Wherry said, "on this occasion the good sense, courtesy, and urbanity of the rev. gentleman forsook him." We should think they did! We believe, as we have stated, that the vicar holds the doctrine of the French bishop, but it would be interesting to know his whole theory of bells. In Latimer's time people believed that they were used to "ring out the devil," and before his day it was a general opinion that consecrated bells had a virtue against thunder and lightning. Does the vicar believe in these theories? If he does, why did he not cause the bells to be rung during the public meeting? The other day the parish bells of Newmarket were rung when the name of the winner of the Derby was telegraphed, but ring them on a Nonconformist religious festival—no, no! The Church is entitled to bobs, bob majors, caters, cinques, bobs royal, bobs maximuses, and grandairs triples; horses are entitled to the same; but Dissent is not worthy of even a single toll. We wonder whether Dissent in Wisbeach has decreased during the last week?

The debate on education on Thursday night last was one of the most interesting that has taken place for some time. It is now conceded, even by the leading of the Tory Opposition, that the demands of Dissenters with respect to their right of admission to all schools supported out of the public grants, is a just demand. Mr. Bruce stated the case very clearly on the part of the Government, and both Sir Stafford Northcote and Sir John Pakington expressed their regret that the National Society should have adopted the course which they have. It is now understood that no school in any town where there is not room for more than one school will receive any aid from the Government unless a "conscience clause" is adopted. It only remains,

now, to extend this principle to all public schools, and, notwithstanding the opposition of the National Society, we have no doubt that this will soon be done.

Any one going just now to the neighbourhood of Mr. Spurgeon's Tabernacle will see the walls and boards around placarded with advertisements of Mr. Spurgeon's sermon on Baptismal Regeneration, noticed a fortnight ago in our columns, and with advertisements of numerous replies to it that have been preached in neighbouring churches. Mr. Spurgeon's prediction is coming true, and he will, no doubt, be forsaken by some adherents and admirers—the Hon. Arthur Kinnaird and the *Record* amongst the number. He has, however, notwithstanding this, followed up his first discourse by a second and even bolder one. We extract from it one passage:—

If there exists anywhere on earth a Church which teaches for doctrine the commandments of men, come out of her, and bear your witness for the truth. I see before me now a Church which tolerates evangelical truth in her communion, but at the same time lovingly embraces Puseyism, and finds room for infidels and for men who deny the authenticity of the Scripture. This is no time for us to talk about friendship with so corrupt a corporation. The godly in her midst are deceived if they think to mould her to a more gracious form. Her bishops will not touch the Burial Service, although four thousand clergymen petition for a little ease for their consciences; nor will they give up reading in God's own worship the filthy story of "Susannah and the Elders," nor the nursery tale of "Bel and the Dragon"—though one of their priests avers that he would quite as soon read "Jack and the Beanstalk." We have waited long enough; her space for repentance has been already too long. Flee out of her, all ye who love your souls. Come ye out from among her; be ye separate; touch not the unclean thing, lest ye be partakers of her plagues, for her plagues are many. Often have I read works in which the Puseyites call the Church of Rome their sister Church; well, if it be so, let the two harlots make a league together, but let good and honest men come out of both apostate churches, and those that love the Lord Jesus Christ, whether clergy or laity, leave them to their doom. I know it is hard work; it calls upon many to be poor, and give up their livings, but they must do it. Scotland witnessed a few years ago one of the noblest spectacles the world ever beheld. My heart would break with joy for England if I should live to see such a day and such a deed of heroism; but there is not spirit enough left in us; there is not grace enough left in us! I fear we have fallen upon a degenerate age. The land of brown heath and shaggy wood, land of the mountain and the flood, has nurtured a noble race of brave, bold men, and these could give up house, and home, and living for the truth and for God's sake; but it is not so in England. No, they will sell their consciences; they will cower down and mutter a lie at the command of the State; they will bury adulterers and seducers in sure and certain hope of a blessed resurrection. They will teach a Catechism which their conscience tells them is untrue, for pelf, for station; for the sake of the loaves and fishes, the men of God (and many of them we hope are such) will hold still to the false Church. But our protest is lifted up against her, and our foot standeth altogether without her camp. Come ye out from among her; be ye separate; touch her not; have no communion with her false doctrines.

This is followed by the subjoined declaration, which we quote in order that we may not be supposed to exaggerate Mr. Spurgeon's meaning:—"I am no politician; I care not one whit what Church has the State-pay, or what has not; I care not for political Dissent, but I do care for religiously following my Master's Word and will." In other words we suppose there is no possibility in following the Master's Word and will in being a politician; in caring a whit what church has the State-pay, or what has not, or in bringing the principles of Christianity and the spirit of Christ to bear on the government of a nation. Mr. Spurgeon, it will be seen, denounces the Church unsparingly, and yet he consents to support it, and does not care "a whit" if even Baptismal Regeneration is preached at his expense. But—well, perhaps, the statement of Mr. Spurgeon's belief will be sufficient.

TESTS ABOLITION (OXFORD) BILL.

DIVISIONS ON THE THIRD READING.

In lieu of giving the names of the members who have voted on the three divisions on Friday, it may perhaps be more useful if we give a list of those Liberal members who were absent unpaired, and of those who have not at any stage given their support to the Bill.

The number, including tellers and pairs, who pronounced on the Bill on Friday, was as follows:—

For.	Against.
Votes . . . 171	Votes . . . 173
Tellers . . . 2	Tellers . . . 2
Pairs . . . 81	Pairs . . . 81
Total . . . 254	Total . . . 256
Total . . . 570	

The bill was supported for the first time by the following six members:—Viscount Bury, A. H. Baring, W. H. Gregory, M. T. Smith, T. M. Weguelin, and Sir Hedworth Williamson. The last gentleman is the new member for North Durham, and these were his first votes in the House. In all

323 members have, at some stages of the measure, supported it.

The following members, 55 in number, who have supported the Bill at previous stages, were absent on Friday. It is only fair to assume that many of these were prevented from being present by the shortness of the notice:—

Andover, Viscount	Mildmay, H. F.
Baring, H. B.	Morrison, W.
Beale, S. (ill)	O'Brien, Sir P.
Blake, J. A.	O'Connor Don, The
Burke, Sir T.	O'Ferrall, More
Butt, Isaac	Onslow, G.
Clifton, Sir R.	Owen, Sir H.
Cobbett, J. M.	Paget, Lord C.
Crossley, Sir F.	Pease, H.
Dunlop, A. M.	Pender, John
Ellies, E.	Pilkington, J.
Ewart, J. C.	Portman, W. B.
Ewing, H. E. C.	Powell, Lieut.-Col.
Fenwick, E. M.	Pryse, Captain
Forster, C.	Rosebuck, J. A.
Forster, W. O.	Scrope, G. P.
French, Colonel	Scully, V.
Glyn, G. C.	Stanley, W. O.
Glyn, G. G.	Stirling, W.
Grey, Sir G.	Talbot, C. R. M.
Handley, John	Thompson, H. S.
Hardcastle, J. A.	Tynte, Colonel
Henley, Lord	Vane, Lord H.
Hodgkinson, G.	Verney, Sir H.
Holland, E.	Wickham, H. W.
Horsman, E.	Wrightson, W. B.
Kingscote, Colonel	Wyld, James
Leatham, E. A.	Wyvill, M.

The following 28 members, who usually vote with the Liberal party, have not supported the Bill at any stage:—

Bowyer, Sir G.	Lyons, D. F.
Brady, Dr. J.	Matheson, A.
Brocklehurst, J.	O'Donoghue, The
Bulkeley, Sir R.	Paget, Lord A.
Clinton, Lord R.	Palmerston, Lord
Cogan, W. H.	Pritchard, J.
Divett, E.	Proby, J.
Dunne, M.	Redmond, J. E.
Elphinstone, Sir J.	Rothschild, Baron L.
Foley, H. J.	Smith, Gen. Sir F.
Hammer, Sir J.	Sullivan, M.
Howard, Lord E.	Thornhill, W. P.
Lanigan, J.	Tottenham, Lieut.-Col.
Levinge, Sir R.	Willoughby, Sir H.

The following Liberal members have voted against the Bill:—

Angerstein, W. (Greenwich)
Gower, W. G. L. (Reigate)
Gladstone, W. E.
Palmer, Sir Roundell
Bailey Crawshaw (Monmouthshire)
Briscoe, J. I. (West Surrey)
Walter, John (Berks)

Notwithstanding the studied absence of Lord Palmerston and the opposition of Mr. Gladstone and Sir Roundell Palmer, probably no measure in the direction of ecclesiastical liberty has received more Government votes than this. The following supported it on Friday night:—Mr. Cardwell, Mr. Gibson, Mr. C. Villiers, Sir C. Wood, Viscount Bury, Mr. F. G. Baring, Mr. Brand, Mr. Bruce, Mr. Childers, Sir W. Dunbar, the Solicitor-General, Mr. Cowper, Mr. Chichester Fortescue, Mr. Gilpin, the Marquis of Hartington, Mr. Headlam, Mr. Hutt, Mr. Layard, the Lord Advocate, the Attorney-General for Ireland, Lord C. Paget, Sir R. Peel, Mr. F. Peel, and Mr. White.

CHURCH-RATES IN THE PARISHES.

CHURCH-RATE DEFEATED IN ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—A vestry of inhabitants of St. George's-in-the-East, exclusive of the ecclesiastical districts of Christ Church, St. Mary's, and St. Matthew's, was held on Monday evening week, to lay a rate over that portion of the parish attached to the parish church, in order to defray the expense of cleansing and repairing the church and repairing the organ. The Rev. J. Lockhart Ross, M.A., rector of the parish, presided. The vestry-room was thronged with parishioners. Mr. W. L. Howell, the vestry clerk, read a surveyor's estimate of the cost of necessary repairs, namely, for the church, 1,000*l.*; and for the organ, 200*l.* Mr. Littlejohn then handed in a protest, signed by himself and other ratepayers, against the whole proceedings, on account of their being limited to the ecclesiastical district attached to the parish church. The vestry-clerk explained that this was in accordance with the recent decisions of Dr. Lushington, as to the power of making Church-rates in districts formed under Lord Blandford's Act. Mr. W. Statfield, J.P., then amid uproar that prevented a single word he said from being heard, proposed a Church-rate of 3*d.* in the pound. Mr. Foulger seconded the motion. Mr. James Fraser proposed, as an amendment, that no rate be made, which was seconded by Mr. Herbert. On the vote being taken, there were about a dozen hands held up for the rate, and a forest of hands against it. A poll was demanded, which resulted in the rate being rejected by 339 to 55.

A RATE REJECTED IN WORCESTER.—An attempt has been made to revive Church-rates in the parish of St. Nicholas, in this city. They were abolished in 1855, and since then the expenses of worship have been met by voluntary contributions. The chairman, at a vestry-meeting held on Friday, explained that many persons who attended church refused to subscribe anything, and the result had been that last

year there was a deficiency of 9l. 16s. 7d. It was at once moved that the churchwardens make application for voluntary contributions. A motion for a 3d. rate was made as an amendment, but the rate was rejected by sixteen to ten. The chairman said he bowed to the decision of the meeting, but he could not go round and ask for contributions. The meeting then separated.

WYMONDEHAM, NORFOLK.—At a vestry-meeting in this parish, the chairman refused to put several amendments, but a rate of a penny in the pound was rejected by a majority of two to one.

PRESTON QUARTER, CUMBERLAND.—At a vestry-meeting of this parish a voluntary rate of a penny in the pound was proposed, but Mr. W. Wilson moved as an amendment that no rate be granted. He said that if a Church-rate were to be made, a return would be made to Government that such a rate had been made, and Government makes no distinction between a voluntary rate and a compulsory rate; he therefore opposed any rate being made. The amendment was carried, and it was understood that the churchwardens were to solicit subscriptions to defray the cost of repairing the parish church.

MR. HENRY HOARE'S PRESENTMENT.

The following correspondence has taken place respecting Mr. Hoare's extraordinary "presentment" to the Archdeacon of Maidstone:—

Staplehurst, June 18.

My Lord,—At a meeting of the Church Institution, held in London on the 26th of April last, your grace is reported to have eulogised the zeal and self-sacrifice of Mr. H. Hoare, of this parish. I perceive that a "presentment" (of which the enclosed is a copy) has been made by Mr. Churchwarden Hoare to the Venerable Archdeacon, at his visitation at Maidstone, on the 31st ult., and further that a copy of the same has been laid before your grace by the said churchwarden. I beg to state that the gentleman who has been so prominently presented as "one Elisha Bailey" is my religious teacher, for whom I entertain a high esteem. Moreover, I believe that I myself am included in the calumnies of the said document, as one of "the leading conspirators who support him in such rebellion." Your grace is Primate of that Church of which Mr. Hoare is an officer. It is therefore with confidence that I appeal from the parish churchwarden to the Primate of all England. Passing over the question of propriety in the resuscitation of an obsolete practice, I ask of your grace, with all due deference and respect, is it to be tolerated in this land and age of freedom, that a churchwarden, who is also a magistrate, may with impunity, of his sole will and pleasure, avail himself of his official standing to defame the character of men who have broken no law—whose moral character is irreproachable—whose only fault would seem to be that they have refused to pay a Church-rate of doubtful legality—scandalously charging them with rebellion and conspiracy, in a public document which is to be handed down to posterity?

My Lord, pardon me, I feel indignant at such treatment, and I have the fullest confidence that your grace will not sanction such an outrage in the name of religion. My views on the Church-rate question have been well known here for thirty years past—I have made no secret of them—my repeated statement in vestry has been, "Make your rate legally and collect it." I shall passively endure the spoiling of my goods." I repeat my complaint, that Mr. Hoare, the parish churchwarden of Staplehurst, has falsely charged his neighbours with conspiracy and rebellion, and I submit that he should be compelled either to establish the charge he has made, or to withdraw it as publicly as he has made it. And I humbly, yet earnestly, pray your grace to institute inquiry into the matter, so that her Majesty's peaceable subjects may henceforth be protected from the like official tyranny.—I have the honour to be, your grace's obedient servant,

WM. JULL.

To the Right Rev. the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Lambeth Palace.

Lambeth Palace, June 24.

Sir,—In reply to your letter of 18th inst., I wish you to understand that if Mr. Hoare has violated any of the laws of his country in the proceedings of which you complain, he will be answerable to the law in the proper court—but he is not answerable to me for what he has felt it right to do in the discharge of his duty.—I am, sir, your faithful and obedient servant,

Mr. W. Jull.

C. T. CANTUAR.

Staplehurst, June 25th.

My Lord,—I have duly received the reply which your grace has been pleased to give to my communication of 18th inst., touching Mr. Hoare's presentment, for which courtesy I am thankful. I note that your grace does not express either approval or disapproval of the course which Mr. Hoare has taken. It is my intention to publish both the letter and the reply.—I have the honour to be, your grace's obedient servant,

WM. JULL.

To the Right Rev. the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Lambeth Palace.

MR. HOARE AND HIS PRESENTMENT.—On Thursday night, Sir Charles Douglas, M.P., obtained an order for a return of all presentments made by the churchwardens of the parish of Staplehurst, in the county of Kent, or either of them, to the Archdeacon of Maidstone, at his annual visitation at Maidstone on the 31st day of May last.

THREE NEW BISHOPS were consecrated at Canterbury on Wednesday. They were—Dr. Francis Jeune, to the bishopric of Peterborough; Dr. C. F. Bromby, to the bishopric of Tasmania; and Dr. Samuel A. Crowther, to the bishopric of the Niger. The last-named is, it will be remembered, a coloured clergyman.

THE BISHOP OF NATAL AND HIS SEE.—The Bishop of Capetown (Dr. Gray) has promulgated his sentence of deposition and excommunication against the Bishop of Natal (Dr. Colenso), in the various Anglican churches of the colony. A strong protest

against the proceeding, grounded on its illegality, was sent in beforehand by the churchwardens and other members of the Church of England, belonging to St. Paul's Church, Durban. Many of the congregation left the church before the episcopal bull was read. Bishop Colenso is fast being martyred by his episcopal brethren.—*Natal Mercury*, May 3.

THE RESISTANCE TO THE CLERICO-POLICE TAX IN EDINBURGH.—On Thursday a strange scene was witnessed in Edinburgh in connection with the resistance which is at present made to the payment of the annuity-tax. The goods of Mr. Dunn, keeper of a metal-warehouse in Blair-street, had been pointed for arrears of the Police and Annuity-tax, amounting, with expenses, to about 22l. Thursday was fixed as the day for selling the pointed goods by auction, but when the officers of the law arrived to sell the goods, they found that the door leading to the back shop, where the pointed goods were placed, had been securely barricaded by means of sheets of iron, supported in the inside by planks of wood. So securely was the room barricaded, that although a sledge-hammer and pickaxe were procured, and the door was hammered at for about fifteen minutes, it was found impossible to gain access to the goods. The shop was crowded, and a large crowd also gathered outside, but with the exception of good-natured jeering and joking at the expense of the baffled functionaries of the law, there was no disturbance. When all the attempts to break open the door proved ineffectual, Sheriff Arkley was sent for, and on his arrival he was told of the state of matters. The officers then left the place amidst hootings and groanings, and three cheers were given by the crowd for Mr. Dunn, who had thus successfully baffled the efforts of the officers of the law to point his goods. Mr. Dunn then coolly shut up his shop, and left the place for the day amidst loud cheers. The crowd then gradually dispersed. It is said that a written report will be made to the Sheriff of the conduct of Mr. Dunn.

BROTHER IGNATIUS.—The brethren of the English Order of St. Benedict have commenced a series of pilgrimages to various points of monastic interest in Norfolk. Their first visit was made to Bawburgh, a village near Norwich, in the course of last week. A correspondence has passed between twenty-three Norwich clergymen and the Rev. E. A. Hillyard, rector of St. Lawrence, Norwich, who has identified himself with the Brethren. The twenty-three clergymen "earnestly and affectionately" entreated Mr. Hillyard to submit a statement of the view which he takes of his position and the principles which guide him to the Bishop of Norwich, and to be guided by the recommendations which the right rev. prelate might offer. Mr. Hillyard replied that, after giving "prayerful attention" to this counsel, he declined to discontinue his daily administration of the Holy Communion to the monks. On this the twenty-three clergymen forwarded Mr. Hillyard a resolution, in which they expressed a hope that his judgment, freed from the bias of a false impression, would yet give to the considerations put before him their due weight and influence. Mr. Hillyard, in a long reply, complained of "a course of unscrupulous agitation originated by persons as hostile to the Church as they are ignorant of its teaching." The twenty-three clergymen fire a parting shot at Mr. Hillyard by intimating to the rev. gentleman that they consider that he is inflicting a heavy blow upon the interests of religion and of the Church which he is bound by the most solemn pledges to support. Referring to Brother Ignatius as Mr. Lyne, the twenty-three clergymen add:—"Not to speak of him as the enthusiastic eulogist of Rome, of his schismatic ministrations, or of the more than questionable nature of his doctrines and practices, suffice it that he acted, and still acts, in contempt of episcopal authority, and of a sentence of inhibition, the legality of which is not disputed."

Religious Intelligence.

WESTMINSTER NEW CHAPEL.

The corner-stone of the new chapel now in course of erection for the congregation under the pastoral care of the Rev. Samuel Martin, in James-street, Westminster, was laid on Tuesday afternoon, June 28, by Sir Francis Crossley, Bart., M.P., in the presence of a large concourse of people.

The style of the design is Lombardic, adapted to the requirements of a large congregation; the general form and internal outline being regulated mainly with the view of securing the best acoustical effect. The general plan is oval. The internal dimensions will be 67 feet wide and 120 feet long, inclusive of the organ gallery, which is to be in a recess over the portico. The extreme internal length will be 130 feet. The internal height will be 50 feet from floor to ceiling. The principal entrance to the ground-floor will be through the portico, to front James-street. For exit, in addition to the portico doorways, there are two exit doorways, one each side of the chapel. Four distinct staircases, with exit quite distinct from those for the ground-floor, are provided for access to the galleries. Two galleries are intended, the lower one to continue quite round the chapel, being very deep at the portico end of the chapel, and very shallow behind the pulpit. The upper galleries are only three seats deep, and will not continue round either end of the chapel. The gallery fronts are to be of open ornamental ironwork supported on a deal base of such a height as to secure all the advantages of an enclosed gallery front. The ceiling will be of the best acoustic form, flat in the centre and coved at the sides. It will be divided into panels by moulded ribs. Especial consideration has been given to the method of heating and ventilating. In the rear of the chapel, to occupy the space between it and the schools, but leaving

a passage all round, will be the lecture-room, to accommodate about 600 persons; large vestry, deacons' and minister's vestry, ladies' room, and other requisite apartments. The accommodation of the chapel is for about 3,000 persons, about 500 of the number standing, and the rest in pews or free seats. The materials of construction will be brick, with Bath stone dressings. A tower and spire 160 feet high at the angle of James-street and Castle-lane, will form the principal feature of the front.

Mr. W. F. Poulton, of Reading, is the architect. The contract has been taken by Messrs. G. Myers and Sons, at the sum of 12,758l.

The ceremony of laying the stone was preceded by a public service in the temporary iron chapel adjoining the site, which has been erected for the use of the congregation during the rebuilding, at an expense of about 1,200l. This very spacious edifice was almost filled at three o'clock, when the Rev. S. Martin entered the pulpit and conducted a devotional service, consisting of hymns, the reading of the Scriptures, and the offering of prayer.

The Rev. Dr. VAUGHAN then delivered an address, commencing with a sketch of the ecclesiastical history of Westminster. That history, he said, was interesting to all, though the men through whose agency this country had developed itself politically, socially, and religiously, as it had done, had been for the most part men attached to the principle and usage of an Established Church.

No doubt much that is very plausible may be said in favour of what is called a State Establishment of religion. There are people who cannot divest their minds of the impression that there ought to be some special channels through which power, wealth, education, and taste should make their contributions to the honour of religion; but we venture to submit to such persons that there are a thousand ways through which power, and wealth, and education, and taste may do homage to sacred things without restoring to such coarse implements as the implements of force in their favour—to speak plainly, without calling in as helpers the tax-gatherer and, it may be, the staff of the constable and the bayonet of the soldier. Let there be such structures as Westminster Abbey and our other cathedrals, say I, provided always that as much care be taken to build up the spiritual Church, consisting of redeemed souls, as is taken to build up the material church, which at best can only be the image of the true. Oh yes! rich carved work in stone or in wood may be very beautiful, but richly adorned souls are more beautiful. The spiritual grandeur of that heaven which the Gospel has revealed to us, transcends immeasurably all possible material grandeur upon this earth. But unhappily the men who the most concerned for rearing and adorning material structures connected with religion, are too often found to be the bitter enemies of men of a more spiritual character, and who live for more spiritual objects. We can appreciate all the contributions that taste and culture may bring to the service of religion, so long as those things are really brought to the service of religion and not put in the place of it; but let them be put into the place of it, and then, as Hezekiah smashed the brazen serpent, we say smash these things into fragments as our fathers sometimes have done before us. We are fascinated not a little, it must be confessed, by the graceful in outward form, but we hope we are more fascinated by the graceful in spirit. We can admire all the conceptions of human genius, but the grandeur of moral and spiritual achievements is to us the loftiest form of grandeur.

They could not forget there was a time when independency was a great power in this same Westminster,—

When the preacher's voice heard from the pulpit of St. Margaret's, and even from that of the Abbey itself, was often the voice of the Congregational minister, when the heel of Cromwell trod the floors of Whitehall Palace, being its owner, when the chaplains that officiated there were Independent pastors, when among the men who joined in lifting up the morning and evening psalm, and who bent their knees in family prayer, included such men as John Milton. Not far away, too, is the Jerusalem Chamber, where the great assembly of divines was convened to deliberate as to the future faith and the future usage of the Church of England—where a small body of Independent ministers had to impose a useful check upon men who were so imperfectly enlightened as to endeavour to establish an order of rule hardly less oppressive than that which had been overthrown. We do not come into Westminster to-day under these circumstances to sound the note of triumph, in military array such as accompanied Cromwell when he came in this city of Westminster from the fields of Dunbar or of Worcester. Happily we are now placed under laws comparatively equal—laws as impartially administered as law as ever been upon this earth—under a system of liberty, too, as well regulated and defined as anything the world has known—civil and religious liberty. We should be forgetful of things we ought never to forget if in looking to that past we could forget the nature of the present.

Independents were now placed under circumstances widely different from that of these men—the men who secured for them this large liberty which they possessed. The price paid to place them where they were was paid in the toil, the suffering, and by the blood of their forefathers. He believed God had a work for Independency to do in the present as well as in the past. The great principle of their system was resistance to coercion in matters of religion.

The self-reliance and the profound sense of right which make us Independents and constrain us necessarily to wish that that others might be free, at the same time make us very jealous of any attempt to invade our freedom. We are so conscious of what is just and generous towards others, that, perhaps, we are a little touchy respecting anything that looks like an invasion of our freedom. But, though I have said thus much about these Independent principles, I value these principles merely as means to an end, value them as promising a pure and more effective proclamation of the Gospel of Christ to men. We do what we can to insure that the members of our churches shall be Christian men, but we do this because a church thus insured to be Christian is obviously most adapted to perform two

departments of service, to conserve the truth deposited with it, and to diffuse that truth unto others. We wish that these churches should be centres of spiritual power, that they may thus become strong to influence neighbourhoods in the direction of spiritual things. If independency be in the New Testament—and we believe it is there—the presumption is strong, that there must be in it an adaptation to secure the great spiritual object of the Gospel dispensation. We believe it is so. We hold to it because we find it in the record, and hold to it more firmly because we think we see in its influences and tendencies that contribute to nurture the soul into Christian manhood, and to fit it for the exercise of the whole manhood in the cause of God. But, while I say this, I am quite conscious there are other denominations around us who, though they do not see with us in these particulars, are intent upon the same great spiritual work; and in the measure that they are so, we bid them God-speed. What we want is that this great empire of ours should be leavened more and more with the Gospel of Christ. I believe most seriously that if Great Britain with its high civilisation, its enormous wealth, its abounding luxury, is to be saved from sensuous selfishness and corruption, and the things that have come from such sources, and so commonly have wasted and destroyed the ancient empires of the world—if we are to be an exception to that rule of events, one thing only can bring about the exception, I mean the Gospel, the religion we possess, and which those ancient empires did not possess. The influence of this we can believe will be to cultivate the moral and religious side of humanity, and apart from which cultivation, there can be no strength, no real abiding of nations. You may have pure science, you may have your arts and commerce, you may augment your wealth, you may cultivate taste, you may rival Greece herself in all the achievements of genius, but if you have not a power among you to form honest men, a power among you in other words to fill a man with the fear of God, and thus so fit him for being just towards his Maker, the grand element of national strength and endurance must be wanting.

The rev. doctor concluded by invoking the blessing of God on the new sanctuary.

A final hymn having been sung, the company repaired to the site in James-street, the ladies and children (many hundreds in number) preceding, and the committee, with many ministers and other gentlemen, falling in, in a long procession, three abreast. Sir Francis Crossley was accompanied by Mr. E. Baines, M.P., Mr. T. Barnes, M.P., C. E. Mudie, Esq., Geo. F. White, Esq., Henry Wright, Esq., the Revs. S. Martin, Dr. Vaughan, A. Raleigh, Jas. Davis, R. Brindley, J. W. Richardson, C. Duke, W. Gill, Dr. Ferguson, R. W. Betts, &c. The actual ceremony was of the briefest description, and, at its close, Sir Francis delivered a brief address of congratulation and encouragement, and especially called upon his hearers to remember that the church for whom the building was being erected was Nonconformist in its principles, had no connection with the State, and desired no sort of forced support. He spoke in warm terms of his friend Mr. Martin, and wished for him and his people the most abundant of blessings in days to come. In the course of his speech, Sir Francis mentioned that the spot on which they were assembled was the site of the first hospital or infirmary in this country.

GEORGE F. WHITE, Esq., of the firm of White Brothers, of Milbank (in the absence of S. Morley, Esq.), then laid upon the stone the sum of "1,005L. from a few friends of the Rev. S. Martin," including Mr. Morley, Mr. J. Finch, Mr. J. Remington Mills, the Messrs. Spicer, and others. This act was followed by the presentation of several hundreds of contributions contained in envelopes. Almost the entire company passed the stone in succession, and deposited their donations.

The Rev. A. RALEIGH concluded the proceedings with prayer and thanksgiving.

Tea was subsequently served in the schoolroom, and a meeting was held in the chapel. It was addressed by Charles E. Mudie, Esq., the Revs. G. S. Ingram, of Twickenham; T. Alexander, of Chelsea; R. Brindley, of Chelsea; W. M. Statham, of Brompton; J. S. Pearsall, of Eccleston Chapel, Pimlico; and Sir Francis Crossley, Bart., M.P.

The Rev. W. H. JELLIE, of Buckingham Chapel, Pimlico, offered prayer at the close.

PECKHAM-RYE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH.—The services in connection with the seventh anniversary of the opening of the above place of worship were commenced on Tuesday, June 21st, when an admirable discourse was delivered by the Rev. Samuel Martin. On Sunday, June 26th, two sermons were preached by the Rev. J. Hiles Hitchens, F.R.S.L. On the following Wednesday, June 29th, a social tea-meeting was held, followed by a public meeting, at which the pastor presided, and addresses were delivered by the Revs. Dr. Campbell, J. S. Pearsall, John Ross, J. De Kewer Williams, J. W. Richardson, and others. It is gratifying to see by the annual printed report of the several institutions connected with this suburban church that during the seven years of its history such a large amount of work has been accomplished for the welfare of the immediate neighbourhood.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.—The annual examination of the pupils, being the sons of Congregational ministers, took place on Wednesday, last, 29th ult. In the forenoon the classical department was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Halley, Principal of New College, who expressed himself highly gratified with their attainments; and in the afternoon a numerous company of friends assembled in the schoolroom, and listened with delight to a most rigorous and protracted examination of the entire school, in geography, arithmetic, English history, &c.; numerous recitations were given. The prizes were distributed by Charles Reed, Esq., F.S.A., who kindly presided on the occasion, and addressed the senior boys who were about to leave

the school. Several ministers were present, amongst whom were observed the Rev. J. Palling, C. Winter, H. Baker, I. V. Mummery, C. R. Howell, R. H. Marten, G. Gogerly, J. Morisson, and J. Merchant. Several expressed themselves as much gratified with the present state and advancement of the school, and only wondered that it should not be better supported by the denomination. Forty-three boys have been in the house during the past half-year, whilst there are accommodations for fifty, and an increasing number of applicants. Reference may be made to any of the ministers named above for the satisfactory state of the school, and new subscriptions may be addressed to the collector, Mr. Churchyard, at the Congregational Library, Blomfield-street. The father of a pupil writes—"How greatly we have valued the educational advantages secured to our dear children at the Congregational Schools, and how deeply we feel our obligations to the supporters and managers of the institution, no words can declare. I only wish I could have been present at the festival, to have attempted a personal acknowledgment. Should you be present, and have the opportunity, please to express these sentiments for us. To the secretary, the committee, Mr. and Mrs. Rudd, we would wish our strongest sentiments of gratitude to be expressed; while the hope that the advantages derived may be improved by the dear children for their own benefit and the benefit of others."

BANBURY.—The Rev. Henry Allden Nash, of New College, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Independent church, Banbury, to become their pastor.

SUTTON-IN-THE-ELMS, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Tuesday, June 21, the Baptist chapel in the above place, which has for the last hundred years been the meeting-place of one of the oldest Nonconformist churches in the kingdom, after undergoing extensive repairs and alterations, was reopened for public worship, when two able sermons were preached; that in the morning by the Rev. J. Martin, B.A., of Nottingham, and that in the evening by the Rev. J. Murrell, of Kettering. Dinner and tea were provided on the spot under a spacious marquee. In the afternoon, select pieces of sacred music were sung by the choir, and several short addresses given, the Rev. J. H. Murrell of Leicester, presiding. And on the Sunday following, June 26, two excellent sermons were preached by the Rev. T. Lomas, of Leicester. The proceeds of the sermons amounted to 40L. The improvement effected in the chapel is so great, that it called forth the admiration of all present, who knew the place in its former state.

WEYMOUTH NEW CHAPEL.—The Congregational chapel newly erected in Gloucester-street, Weymouth (Melcombe Regis), was opened for Divine worship on Wednesday last, June 22. The Rev. D. Thomas, B.A., of Bristol, preached in the morning from Psalm xlii. 5, and the Rev. H. Allon, of Islington, in the evening, from John xiv. 1. The dedicatory prayer was offered by the pastor, the Rev. R. S. Ashton, B.A. The Rev. John Smith (the former pastor) read the Scriptures and engaged in prayer. The Revs. W. Lewis, J. Birt, B.A., R. T. Verrall, B.A., J. Fox, B.A., and J. E. Drover also took part in the services. After the morning service, a cold collation was served in the school-room beneath the chapel, and was followed by a public tea. On the following Sunday, sermons were preached in connection with the opening ceremony, by the Rev. Robert Ashton, of London, and by the pastor. The proceeds of these various services amounted to nearly 100L. The new chapel, with galleries, will accommodate 700 persons, and has cost about 4,000L., of which about 500L. remains to be collected. Underneath the chapel is a school-room 48 feet long by 45 broad and 12 in height.

WEYBRIDGE.—The memorial stone of a Congregational church in this picturesque and growing village was laid on Monday evening, by Mr. J. R. Mills, M.P. The circumstances which have led to the taking of this step are interesting. The Congregationalists once possessed a commodious chapel in the parish, but, it not having been put in trust, it was alienated from religious uses, and the congregation was ultimately dispersed. On January 7th, 1863, Mr. Scott, the City Chamberlain, who is a resident, opened a room in his own house for worship on Sunday evenings, and subsequently built in his own grounds a room holding 200 people, to accommodate the increasing number who attended. Mr. Scott himself conducted the services; the usefulness of which has been attested by the altered lives of some of the worshippers. The time having seemed to come when efforts of a bolder and more permanent kind might be made, it has been agreed to form a Congregational church, to be fraternally united with that at Hershaw, of which the Rev. A. E. Lord is minister; an assistant minister being appointed. It has also been resolved to erect a place of worship, for which—thanks to the liberality of Mr. Scott—an excellent site has been obtained. Mr. Tarring has supplied a tasteful design, in the Gothic style, and it is estimated that the cost, exclusive of the ground, will be 2,000L. and the amount of the accommodation 450. The weather on Monday evening was very favourable for the ceremony, which was witnessed not only by many of the inhabitants, but by numerous friends from a distance, who desired to express their sympathy with the movement. Among these were the Rev. Dr. Waddington, the Rev. J. De Kewer Williams, the Rev. R. W. Betts, W. Leavers, Esq., J. W. Buckley, Esq., H. Bidgood, Esq., Carvell Williams, Esq., W. Seth Smith, Esq., T. C. Turberville, Esq., the Rev. W. Anderson, F. Allport, Esq. After devotion, and a statement by Mr. Scott, the memorial stone

was laid by Mr. Mills, who delivered an address descriptive of the objects and principles of those by whom the edifice was to be erected. A statement of the sums contributed was then made, and several additional amounts were placed upon the stone. Among the contributors are the following:—Mr. Scott, 500L., Mr. Charles R. Smith, 200L., Mr. W. Seth Smith, 200L., Mr. Morley, 100L., Mr. J. Morley, 50L., Mr. Briscoe, M.P., 5L., Mr. Joshua Wilson, 10L., Mr. J. Dawson, 10L., the total sum announced being 1,350L. At the conclusion of the ceremony a large company was hospitably entertained at Heath House, and at eight o'clock a public meeting was held in the lecture-room. Mr. Scott presided, and the Rev. A. E. Lord delivered an excellent address on the character and working of a true Scriptural church. Brief addresses were also delivered by Mr. Franklin Allport and Mr. Carvell Williams.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Tuesday afternoon, June 28, the ceremony of laying the memorial stone of the new church which is about to be erected in Queen-street, Wolverhampton, in the place of the old building, for the use of the Independent body, was performed by Thomas Wilkinson Shaw, Esq., of Dunstall, in the presence of a large assembly. The proceedings commenced with the singing of a hymn, "Lift up to God the voice of praise," followed by prayer by the Rev. J. P. Carey, in the absence, from illness, of the Rev. R. D. Wilson, of Birmingham, and formerly pastor of Queen-street Chapel. The Rev. T. G. Horton then presented Mr. Shaw with a very handsomely chased silver trowel, with ivory handle, enclosed in a morocco case, as a permanent memento of the auspicious event of the day. The trowel bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Thomas Shaw, Esq., on his laying the foundation-stone of a new Congregational church, Queen-street, June 28th, 1864." Mr. Shaw afterwards deposited in a cavity underneath the memorial stone, a bottle, containing a copy of a local paper and the *Nonconformist*, the "Queen-street Chapel Manual," for 1864; copies of the two last sermons preached by the Rev. T. G. Horton; a few copper coins of the realm, dated 1864; and a parchment containing a brief history of the chapel. The mortar was then spread by Mr. Shaw, and the stone having been lowered on to its resting-place, he applied a level, afterwards giving the stone a few blows with a mallet, after which, in the following words, he declared the stone laid:—"In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the one Triune God, we lay this stone as the foundation or memorial stone of a building to be erected thereon for His worship and service for the use of that section of His church, the members of which are called by the name of Congregational Nonconformists. I declare this stone duly and properly laid." On the stone is inscribed:—

This place of worship was erected to the glory of God, in the third year of the pastorate of the Rev. T. G. Horton, and on the site of the chapel-building of A.D. MDCCCXIII. This stone in memorial thereof was laid by T. W. Shaw, Esq., XXVIII. June, in MDCCCLXIV. G. Bidlake, architect."

Mr. Shaw, after performing the interesting ceremony, mounted upon the stone and delivered an able address of considerable length, relating chiefly to the history of the old chapel, and the pastors who had ministered there. Offerings were then received towards the building fund; after which another hymn was sung, and the Rev. J. C. Beadle then offered up a dedicatory prayer. The Rev. A. Morton Brown, LL.D., next delivered a concluding address. The Rev. T. G. Horton then pronounced the benediction, and the National Anthem having been sung, a round of hearty cheers was given, and the assemblage separated. A public tea-meeting was afterwards held in the Corn Exchange, which had been especially decorated and beautified for the occasion with tastily arranged festoons of flowers and evergreens. The hall was crowded in every part, both on the platform and in the galleries, and the number of persons present was estimated at upwards of a thousand, a large majority of whom were ladies. After tea a public meeting was held. J. Hartley, Esq., presided, and was supported on his right and left by the Revs. T. G. Horton (pastor of the church); A. M. Brown, LL.D., of Cheltenham; G. B. Johnson, of Edgbaston; G. B. Macdonald, (Wesleyan); J. W. Bain, of Bilston; Mr. T. W. Shaw, Mr. H. H. Fowler, Mr. C. B. Mander, Mr. S. S. Mander, Mr. T. Edwards, Mr. Bantock, Mr. Saunders, and other gentlemen. There were also several ladies. A well-selected choir of first-class vocalists contributed much to the pleasure of the evening's proceedings by singing at intervals a selection of divine pieces. The after proceeding having been opened with singing and prayer, Mr. Saunders (the secretary of the committee) then read a report, which describes the steps taken to erect a new chapel in place of the old. The new building would seat nearly 1,300 persons. Underneath it would be a lecture-room to hold 400 persons, with vestries, &c. The style is Italian freely treated. There is also a tower and spire to the height of 110 feet. During the evening several additional subscriptions were promised. The collection at the close of the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone realised 31L. and some few shillings. The plan of the chapel is a parallelogram, divided into nave and side aisles by two rows of coupled columns, carrying galleries over the side aisles and over the north end of the nave, an organ-gallery being provided at the south end. No sooner was their scheme propounded than a few gentlemen met together, who promised handsome subscriptions, amounting to the noble sum of above 3,200L. At a public tea-meeting, held in November, 1862, this sum was considerably augmented with addi-

tional names and subscriptions to the extent of 4,600*l*. Finding the cost likely to be greater than had been expected, a few gentlemen promised further subscriptions, in addition to those already secured, to the extent of 1,200*l*, and now the total amount of promised subscriptions exceeds 6,500*l*, extending over four years, including the current year. The committee are convinced that the new chapel will not only be a monument or memorial erected to the honour and glory of God, but that it will be an ornament worthy of the advancing age in which we live, and also of the rising town of Wolverhampton. The total cost, exclusive of organ, furnishing of pews, &c., will be 9,380*l*; total subscriptions, 6,500*l*; leaving 2,880*l* still to be raised. The meeting was then addressed by the chairman, the Rev. T. G. Horton; the pastor, Mr. H. H. Fowler; the Rev. Dr. Brown, of Cheltenham; Rev. Mr. Johnson, of Edgbaston; Mr. Bantock, and Mr. Edwards.

Correspondence.

DISSENTING MINISTERS' VOTES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—July has come round again, the time for sending in claims to be placed on the register of county voters. Will you permit me to relate, in as few words as possible, the steps I took last year to secure my vote for South Leicestershire, to encourage other ministers similarly situated with myself to send in their claims before the 20th inst. I fear that the failure of my friend Mr. Collier, of Downton, to establish his claim, a few years ago, may have led many to refrain from making a claim for a vote, under the conviction that it is useless to do so. The record of my own success, under like circumstances, may at least convince them that it is worth while to try the experiment.

In virtue of my office as minister of the Baptist church here, I occupy a house which is attached to the chapel for the use of the minister. The occupancy of this house gives me a vote for North Northamptonshire, my right to which has never been challenged, and which I have twice used during the eleven years of my residence here. But there is also an estate at Lutterworth, worth something under thirty pounds a-year, left in trust for the benefit of the Baptist minister of Kettering for the time being. I claimed my vote on this estate in 1862, and my name was placed on the register without opposition. But last year I received notice of objection to my vote, and accordingly went to Lutterworth on the day appointed to defend my claim. I took with me a friend who was a trustee of the chapel property at Kettering, and also a trustee under the will by which the estate at Lutterworth was devised, and who, moreover, was able to speak as to the manner of my appointment to the pastorate here. I carried with me also an extract from the will devising the Lutterworth property, to show that that property was left in trust for the minister; and the invitation of the church here and my own acceptance of it, to prove that the call was a general one, not limited to any term of years, nor reserving to the church any right to dismiss me at their pleasure. I ought to have produced the trust-deed of the chapel to prove the same thing. I proved the point without it, but the proof would have been more complete if I had had it.

The ground of objection was that my appointment was not for life, and that I therefore had no freehold interest in the property on which I claimed my vote. I met this by proving that the call was unlimited, in the sense which I have already explained; that by the terms of the call and acceptance the office may last for life unless terminated; contending that the uncertainty of such termination made the claim freehold for voting purposes. Of course the opposing lawyer affected indignant surprise. "Do you mean," he asked my friend, "that if Mr. Mursell were to turn Roman Catholic, the church or trustees could not dismiss him?" The Barrister himself answered him, "You might as well ask what could be done if Mr. Mursell lost his senses; of course the Court of Chancery could interpose in such a case; but that does not affect the tenure of the office." In short, the Barrister, the Hon. Gowran Vernon, ruled that the appointment was legally for life, allowed the vote, and, on my application, awarded me my travelling expenses.

My story has been longer than I intended, its moral is clear and brief:—1. The decision of one Barrister, even though confirmed, as in Mr. Collier's case, by a superior court, does not bind the judgment of another Barrister. It is, therefore, always worth while to try the question, when there is ground on which to base the claim. 2. I would recommend my brethren similarly situated with myself to all means to claim their vote, unless they know that there is something in the trust-deeds or in the terms of their appointment, limiting that appointment to a term of years, or rendering it terminable by the arbitrary will of the church.

I am, dear Sir, yours sincerely,

JAMES MURSELL.

Kettering, July 4, 1864.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

The following are lists of candidates who passed the respective examinations indicated:—

MASTER OF ARTS.

BRANCH I.—Classics.—William Scarnell Lean, University College.

BRANCH II.—Mathematics and Natural Philosophy.—Henry John Purkiss (Gold Medal), Trinity, Cambridge; John Bumby Smales, Wesley, Sheffield.

BRANCH III.—Logic and Moral Philosophy, Political Philosophy, History of Philosophy, Political Economy.—Edward Henry Burk, Manchester New and University, Rev. John Clifford, B.Sc., University (Equal); Samuel Pearson, New; David Evans, Trevecca; William Nicolle, New, Thomas Brodribb, King's (Equal); Charles Dugard Makepeace, Queen's, Birmingham.

BACHELOR OF LAWS.

FIRST DIVISION.—William Thomas Bensly, King's; James Morell Blackie, New; George William Hewitt Fletcher, King's; Denis Maurice O'Connor, M.A., Downside; Albert Kaye Rollit, King's; Alfred Rowland, New; Theodore Waterhouse, University.

SECOND DIVISION.—Archibald Hastie Dick, M.A., Huddersfield; Henry Godefroi, University; John Hooper, Self-tuition; Thomas Hanson Lewis, University; Rev. William Tate, M.A. Dubl., Trinity College, Dublin.

COLLEGE ANNIVERSARIES.

HACKNEY.

The annual meeting of Hackney Theological Seminary was held in Trinity Chapel, East India-road, Poplar, on Tuesday evening last. The chair was occupied by the Rev. George Smith, D.D., who was supported on the platform by several ministers and other friends of the institution. The proceedings were opened with singing and prayer. An address on "The Connection between Faith and Holiness" was then delivered by Mr. H. STARMER, the student to whom the "First Home's Jubilee Prize" was awarded. The delivery of the address—which was listened to with the deepest attention—occupied nearly an hour. After a brief address from the CHAIRMAN, the report of the committee was read by the secretary, Mr. J. E. RICHARDS, which referred to the proofs of the efficiency of the institution, to the very large demand which had been made upon the services of the students as supplies, and the committee mentioned with pleasure that efforts of a directly missionary character had been put forth by the students in open-air services in the London-fields, as well as in a more settled manner in Goldsmith's-row and Bow-common. Since the last report two of the students had received honourable appointments in the ministry, and four students had completed their academic course during the session now closing. The report then gave some details with respect to other students, and stated that the highest number of students during the year had been twenty-two, two being non-resident. The subject of the "Home's Jubilee Prize" for the present year was on "The Connection between Faith and Holiness." Seven students competed, of whom Mr. Starmar received the first prize of 20*l*, and Mr. Batty the second of 10*l*. In pursuance of the plan adopted last year, a meeting of the committee and of the former and present students was held at the Seminary on Tuesday, the 10th of May. About fifty gentlemen were present, and many interesting addresses were delivered in the course of the evening. The report next gave some particulars with respect to the different studies which had been engaged in by the students; and then, turning to the more general operations of the society, the committee reported that the sum of 273*l*. 15*s*. 5*d*. had been voted to various ministers and chapels, and defrayed the expenses of supplying the pulpit of the meeting-house in Gravel-lane since October last. The Rev. J. KENNEDY moved that the report which had been read be adopted, and that it be printed under the direction of the committee, and that Mr. W. Black, Mr. W. Kelsey, Mr. T. Scrutton, Mr. J. Scrutton, Mr. J. Townley, and Mr. J. Walls, be appointed to fill up the vacancies in the committee for the ensuing year. Mr. Kennedy briefly remarked on the very satisfactory nature of the report, and afterwards referred to the good which such an institution was calculated to confer. Mr. CHARLES REED, F.S.A., in seconding the resolution, bore testimony to the admirable management of the institution. The Rev. Dr. URWICK moved a resolution urging the duty of the Church to support liberally institutions for training ministers, which was seconded by the Rev. E. M. PRICE. A vote of thanks to the chairman was moved by the Rev. J. H. WILSON, and seconded by the Rev. I. V. MUMMERY. The Rev. Mr. MCALL also bore testimony to the value of the services rendered by the chairman, and to the great interest he, on all occasions, exhibited in the institution. The resolution was carried unanimously, and the chairman having briefly acknowledged the compliment, the proceedings were brought to a conclusion by the singing of the Doxology.

CHESHUNT COLLEGE.

The ninety-sixth anniversary of the Countess of Huntingdon's College at Cheshunt was held on Thursday in the chapel and grounds of the institution. There was a very numerous gathering. Divine service began at eleven o'clock with the reading of the Order for Morning Prayer. After this a lucid and well-reasoned discourse was delivered by the senior student, Mr. G. E. Singleton, the chosen pastor of the church at Hatfield-heath, on "The Character of our Lord Jesus Christ." The Rev. W. M. Punshon, M.A., then ascended the pulpit, or rather platform, erected as usual at one of the side windows of the chapel, half the congregation at least being under the awning outside, and preached a very earnest and eloquent sermon founded upon Luke xxiv. 45—48. Immediately afterwards dinner was served to at least four hundred ladies and gentlemen in a spacious marquee in the meadow beyond the garden over the New River. The chair was taken by the Hon. Arthur Kinnsaird, M.P., and there were present, amongst others, Mr. Alderman Challis, Mr. James Spicer, Mr. B. Cooke, Mr. A. Morrison, Dr. Hoppus, the Revs. H. R. Reynolds, B.A. (the president), Professors W. B. Todhunter and Evan John Evans, Ph.D., H. Allon, T. James, W. F. Punshon, Dr. David Thomas, J. Thomas, T. Hill, A. M. Henderson; Messrs. J. W. Willans, F. W. Wilcocks, P. Bunnell, H. R. Williams, &c.

Following the usual loyal toast, and a couple of verses of the National Anthem, the CHAIRMAN said he felt much satisfaction in being permitted to take part with the friends and supporters of Cheshunt College in the great and increasingly important work in which

they were engaged, that of training young men for service in the Christian ministry. He was reminded of a name dear to all who loved the God and Saviour, and whose history taught us most impressively what a Christian woman could do in the promotion of the cause of truth. The name of Lady Huntingdon would, he trusted, be long treasured and loved. (Hear, hear.) Most heartily did he congratulate the friends of Cheshunt College upon its prosperity, and upon the unmistakeable evidence supplied by the numerous attendance at the present anniversary, of the wide-spread interest felt in its welfare.

It was well, indeed, that this was so, for a great work still remained to do, demanding the extension of all right-hearted collegiate institutions; and there was reason to believe that the sphere of this college would become greatly extended under the able direction of its principal, and there would go forth from it a large number of well-qualified and valiant defenders of the truth. (Cheers.) He trusted that the rivalry going on between the different Christian churches would be more and more to prove which of the churches shall be best instructed in the Word of God; that the question would be, not as to discipline and ceremony, but who shall be most able ministers of Jesus Christ. (Cheers.) That was a rivalry in which all present might heartily join, and whoever should prove most successful ought to receive the warmest approval. (Cheers.)

The Rev. H. R. REYNOLDS explained the course of study that had been pursued in the college during the year, and stated that the session opened with twenty-six students, whose preaching had been continuous and successful. He had himself heard the majority of them preach more than once or twice, and could bear ample testimony to the earnestness, simplicity, and increasing power of their ministrations. They had exercised their ministry in 130 different places, and most gratifying reports had been received of the entire acceptance of these services. One sign of this fact was, that out of the six students leaving the colleges, four were the chosen pastors of churches, and the other two had prospects of speedy settlement. During the session which had now closed three students had taken the degree of Bachelor of Arts, and they were all placed in the first division. No fewer than twenty-five applications had been received for admission to the college during the past year; but, owing to want of room, and the state of the funds, only ten of them could be entertained. The taking even of this number would cause the expenditure to be considerably augmented, and increased the demand of the college upon the sympathy and co-operation of the churches. In addition to the changes thus explained, it was expected that the vacancies amongst the missionary students would be filled up from the London Society. Apart from the two chapels in Cheshunt habitually supplied by the students, six village stations were entirely dependent upon the college for the means of grace.

Mr. Alderman CHALLIS, the treasurer, explained the necessity for more than the usual contributions at this anniversary. The demands of the churches upon the college had necessitated the expenditure of more than the income by 250*l*, which, added to the 250*l* debt of last year, left a deficiency of 500*l*. He hoped that this debt would be at once paid off, and that the regular resources of the college would be augmented at least 250*l* a-year.

The Rev. Mr. BATON, the new secretary, in the room of the late Rev. J. Bramell, read the financial details of the year. It began with a debt of 252*l*. The income had reached to 1,518*l*. 5*s*. 3*d*. The subscriptions included in this amount were 299*l*. 8*s*. 6*d*., an increase of 14*s*. 9*s*. upon the year. The donations were 51*l*. 5*s*. less than last year; but the congregational collections had increased by 54*l*. 5*s*. 9*d*., the total under that head being 123*l*. 7*s*. 9*d*. The number of collections was thirteen, against eight in the last year. Since the account was made up, another collection had come in, amounting to 16*l*. The expenditure, including the balance of 252*l*, was 2,053*l*, leaving a deficiency of 535*l*. 10*s*. 7*d*. Towards meeting this debt to the treasurer, sums had been received or promised amounting to 257*l*. 5*s*. (In the course of the proceedings, several other sums were announced to go to the reduction of the balance, amounting probably to 50*l*.)

Mr. A. MORRISON thought that an effort ought to be made to raise 5,000*l*, in order that a new start might be made. If this should be done, he would give the last 80*l*.

The reports of the examiners were next read. They were: the Rev. T. W. Davids, Systematic Theology; the Rev. T. Fuson, Greek Exegesis; the Rev. B. Redpath, Classics and Hebrew; the Rev. H. Allon, Philosophy. The reports were all of the most gratifying description.

Cordial thanks were voted to Mr. Punshon for his sermon, upon the motion of the Rev. A. M. HENDERSON, seconded by the Rev. J. BEAZLEY, for which Mr. PUNSHON expressed his acknowledgments in glowing terms, and wished all possible prosperity to the college.

The Rev. Dr. DAVID THOMAS moved, and the Rev. G. JONES seconded, the next resolution, which was adopted:—

That this meeting offers its hearty thanks to those friends of the college who have so promptly contributed to meet the present deficiency in its funds, and, recognising as the cause of such deficiency the enlarging usefulness of the institution, both as respects the number of its students and the character of the education they receive, confidently and earnestly appeals to all the friends of the college and to the Christian public for immediate co-operation in the entire removal of the financial difficulties now urgent, and for such regular and liberal contributions as shall prevent the recurrence of these difficulties.

Dr. HOPPUS moved, and the Rev. H. CHRISTOPHERSON seconded, a third resolution—

That the meeting tenders its grateful acknowledgments to

the President and other Professors, for their faithful labours in the institution during the session now ended, and also to the able gentlemen who have with so much care tested the results of these labours by their examination of the students.

This resolution was also cordially adopted; and a vote of thanks to the chairman, moved by J. W. WILLIAMS, Esq., and seconded by the Rev. J. B. FIGGERS, concluded the proceedings.

NEW COLLEGE.

The annual meeting of the subscribers of New College took place on Tuesday, June 28th, under the presidency of the Rev. Dr. Spence. Other public engagements detained many friends elsewhere, so that the company was rather smaller than usual. The proceedings having been opened by prayer by the Rev. J. Fleming,

Mr. J. E. JONES, one of the senior students, read an essay on Blaise Pascal and his times, written in an easy and graceful style. It was very well received, though its length rather severely taxed the patience of the audience.

The Rev. W. FARRER then read the report from the council, which, after referring to the resignation of Professor Godwin, and the division of the duties of the Greek Testament class during the session between Dr. Halley and Professor Newth, stated that forty-three students commenced the last session, and of applications already received from candidates for next year, seven had been accepted, two declined, one withdrawn, and nine or ten were still pending. It is hoped that the next commencement will be with about fifty students for the ministry. The report proceeds,—

The Burder scholarship for the year has been awarded to Mr. John Emmett Jones, the Pye-Smith scholarship to Mr. Llewelyn David Bevan, B.A., and the Bennet King Scholarship to Mr. George Alexander Christie.

Five students from New College matriculated in the University of London at the July examination, 1863. Two others, at the same time, passed the first B.A. examination, one of whom, Mr. James Edward Hannum, obtained honours in Latin. One student, Mr. William Parker Irving, has passed the first examination for the degree of Bachelor of Science, with honours in chemistry and natural philosophy. Four have obtained the degree of B.A., to one of whom, Mr. L. D. Bevan, was assigned the second place in honours in logic and moral philosophy. Another of the students who graduated last October as B.A., Mr. Samuel Pearson, has just passed the examination for the degree of M.A. in Branch III. (Mental and Moral Philosophy), being placed by the examiners next to the first two successful candidates, who were bracketed equal. The same degree has likewise been obtained by Mr. William Nicolle, a former lay student of the college. At the June examination, 1863, Mr. R. P. T. Gammon passed for the degree of LL.B.

Six students have been called to the pastoral office since the last anniversary. Of those who were then leaving, Mr. John William Blore has become the colleague of the Rev. John Alexander, Norwich; Mr. Alfred Norris has accepted the pastorate of the church at Trinity Chapel, Walthamstow; and Mr. Edward Z. Little, that of the English Congregational Church, Carmarthen. Mr. George Wade Robinson was permitted to leave the college in October, in order to become co-pastor with the Rev. Dr. Urwick at Dublin. Mr. Frederick Sweet, whose course is finished to-day, has accepted a call to the pastorate of the Congregational Church at Romford; and Mr. James Chew, whose proper term of study is not yet completed, is allowed, for special reasons, to enter at once upon the pastorate to which he has been invited, at Mile-end-road Chapel. Two other students are now leaving for whom there is every reason to hope that suitable occupations in the ministry will soon be found.

The report then refers to the acceptableness of the students as preachers, and states that the demand for their services appears to be still on the increase. Reference is made to the loss sustained by the college in consequence of the death of J. M. Coombs, Esq., whose office as treasurer had been accepted by Mr. Remington Mills, M.P., and as chairman of the council by the Rev. Thomas Burnley. A gratifying measure of success had attended the labours of the finance committee during the short period since their appointment, and a large number of former students of the college had added their name to the list of subscribers, in some cases with the addition of promises to make collections for the college as soon as possible. But the committee look for a large extension of the subscription list, and appeal to the entire constituency of the college, and the Congregational churches of England, for a renewal of sympathy and prayer in the work of specially training candidates for the ministry.

The financial statement which was appended showed a balance of more than 200*l.* against the institution. The amount of subscriptions was about 730*l.*, and of congregational collections, 125*l.*

The professors, who were all most warmly greeted by the students, then presented their reports, detailing the curriculum for the past session, and mentioning those students who had particularly distinguished themselves in their respective classes. Professor Godwin thanked the council for having given him leave of absence for three months at the beginning of this year; his sojourn abroad had had the desired effect of completely restoring his health. The learned professor was afterwards warmly congratulated on his renewed strength.

The Rev. J. SPENCER PHARSALL, in moving the adoption of the report, said he was exceedingly gratified by the report and the excellent condition of the institution generally. He rejoiced that the ministry of the students was found so acceptable, and was glad to hear that some of them had been settled as co-pastors. They had no "curates" among them, but he wished they had something more of the kind. Many a young man would be heartily glad to labour as an assistant to such men as Mr. Martin or Mr. Mellor for awhile rather than enter at once upon a

pastorate. They wanted a plurality of elders. Under their one-man system the minister was expected to be a good preacher, a good pastor, a good platform orator, a good beggar, and a good itinerant teardrinker. (Laughter.) He could only say for the man who was required to fulfil all these duties, God bless him! He hoped the necessity for division of labour would engage the attention of all the ministers and congregations.

The Rev. A. MACMILLAN seconded the resolution, and said that the occasional services of the students in his chapel had been exceedingly acceptable.

The Rev. J. STOUTON moved the thanks of the meeting to the council and officers, together with their reappointment for another year. He had often, he said, come to these meetings depressed, but now felt nothing but gladness. Any cloud that might have rested in time past upon the prospects of the College had passed away, and he knew that it was strong again in the confidence of their congregations, and was rapidly rising in public favour. He endorsed Mr. Macmillan's testimony as to the favour with which the students were regarded by the congregations to whom they preached.

The Rev. THOMAS JAMES seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously.

Mr. MILLS, M.P., in acknowledging the vote, said he was greatly disappointed when he received the statement of accounts for the year, to find the amount of subscriptions and congregational collections no larger. He felt that it was a shame that the institution was not better supported, and he could not believe that the finance committee would have much difficulty in devising means for obtaining a very considerable increase to the income of the college. The ministers did not so frequently remember the colleges when leading the public devotions of their congregations. That was the way to bring down a blessing upon these institutions, and it would interest the people in their welfare more than anything else.

The Rev. J. HADEN, of High Wycombe, moved a vote of thanks to the auditors, which the Rev. R. GOSHAWE seconded.

The students leaving, to whom books were presented from the Selwyn Fund, were then called up, and the presentations made by the chairman, with a few suitable words to each recipient.—To the value of 20*l.*—Mr. John Emmett Jones, Burder scholar; 10*l.* each—Mr. Frederick Sweet, pastor-elect of the Congregational Church, Romford; Mr. John Jackson Wilks, B.A., Pye-Smith scholar; Mr. James Chew, pastor-elect of the church at Brunswick Chapel, Mile-end-road.

The Rev. Dr. SPENCE then delivered a brief but stirring and stimulative address to the students, full of practical wisdom and valuable counsel. He added his testimony to the value set upon the ministrations of the students, and incidentally expressed his satisfaction that Dr. Halley's report showed that the instruction of the students in the principles of Nonconformity and Congregationalism was not neglected. He had once met with a clergyman who had been educated at a Dissenting college, and asked him the reasons for his secession. He told him among other things that during the four years he was in a Dissenting college he never once heard anything said about Nonconformist principles; but as soon as he entered a Church college to prepare for a ministry in the Establishment, the principal endeavoured to show him that the Establishment was perfect, and no day passed without the lesson being repeated.

The Rev. Dr. HALLEY moved a vote of thanks to Dr. Spence for presiding. He mentioned that the Rev. Thomas Binney had written to express his regret at not being able to be present. If it had been possible for him to have left his house, he would have been with them.

The motion was seconded by Dr. GODWIN, and carried by acclamation, and the meeting was then closed with the benediction.

THE GLOUCESTERSHIRE INSTITUTION.

On Wednesday evening last a *soirée* was held at Highbury Chapel, Cotham, Bristol, in connection with the Gloucestershire institution for the education of home missionaries. Tea having been partaken of in the spacious lecture-room, the friends adjourned to the chapel, where a public meeting was convened. The chair was taken by the Rev. D. Thomas, and amongst those present were several ministers and laymen of the town and neighbourhood. A hymn having been sung, the Rev. Mr. JONES, of Bridgwater, offered prayer. The CHAIRMAN, in addressing the meeting, said that the Gloucestershire Institution, which had brought them there that night, had been established for training young men for evangelistic work. He was happy to congratulate them that night upon the success of the undertaking thus far. It had so happened, in the good providence of God, that nothing at all took place to disappoint them in the establishment of the institution, or the proceedings of the first year of its existence. They felt that it was a matter of vital importance that they should put at the head of the institution a man eminent for his qualifications, and they felt that this was not an easy matter to realise. Here, however, he was sure he was speaking for all the members of the committee, and those who had interested themselves in the institution, when he said that in their friend Mr. Hartland, they had found a man who, during the past years, and the whole time he had been related to that institution, had proved himself quite qualified. (Cheers.) He was sure there was in the minds of all but one conviction upon that matter. They were thankful also that the eleven or twelve young men received into the institution had commended themselves to their tutor and

to the friends with whom they had come into contact in the different villages. The interest of the institution was not confined to Gloucestershire, and the advantages resulting from it would not be confined to that county, and it was hence not right that the support given should be confined to Bristol and Gloucestershire. Two of the students next read essays—Mr. Williams one on "The Wisdom of God in Providence," and Mr. Sweeting one on "The Wisdom of God in Salvation." Both papers were very creditable specimens of composition, and bore evidence of a sound acquaintance with the doctrinal topics descended upon by the young men. The Rev. E. J. HARTLAND, the tutor of the institution, next read the report of the work done during the past session, which was of an interesting nature, and bespoke a careful selection of subjects and great attention to elements. Favourable reference was made to the preaching services of the students as supplies, and it was stated that, with two exceptions they had all engaged in district visitation during the greater part of the session, and monthly reports have been furnished. The Rev. S. HEDDITCH read the reports from the following gentlemen, who acted as examiners:—English language and literature, the Revs. W. Guest (Taunton) and G. Wood (Zion Chapel); general history, the Rev. W. Young (Gloucester); church history, the Rev. C. Chapman (Bath); Christian evidences, the Revs. H. I. Roper (Bridge-street Chapel), Dr. F. W. Gotch (Baptist College), and J. Burder (Clifton); Biblical history and geography, the Rev. H. M. Gunn (Warminster); Biblical interpretation, the Rev. D. Thomas (Highbury); systematic theology, the Rev. Dr. Brown (Cheltenham). The reports were all of a gratifying character, and spoke favourably of the style of teaching in the institution. The Rev. J. BURDER next addressed the students in an earnest speech. The CHAIRMAN announced that the friends in London had sent six copies of Dr. Vaughan's History of Nonconformity for presentation to some of the students, and the Bristol committee had purchased five other copies, so that each fully admitted student should receive a copy. The Rev. Dr. GOTCH, on his own behalf and that of the Rev. T. S. Crisp, congratulated the institution on its efficiency, and he said he did not look upon it as a rival to the Baptist College, but he thought each institution should stir up the other to good works. (Cheers.) Mr. H. O. WILLS believed they had in the list of students some who would prove very useful in the church, and he thought if the funds were increased they could have a large accession to the number of equally talented and earnest young men. Mr. JUPP said that the church was looking towards their colleges with painful anxiety lest they should not bring forth men suited for the times. At present in their denomination there existed 300 ministers without churches; and the idea was suggested that some of these had mistaken their calling. He did not think it was the learning, but the earnestness which was lacked by many ministers, and it might be urged that they had almost too much learning in their colleges and other training institutions. Mr. H. COSHAM expressed his pleasure at the success which had attended the efforts of the promoters of the institution. It was not so much preachers as evangelists that were required, and which the institution was to furnish. In addressing the students, the speaker recommended them, if they wanted to be efficient village teachers, to adopt a colloquial mode of discourse, and not to give the people so many set sermons, where the preacher went on from first, secondly, thirdly, and so on to tenthly; but to endeavour to throw in that which was not expected or looked for, in order to arrest attention, for that was one of the great secrets of success. After a few remarks from Mr. S. LEONARD, the Rev. S. HEDDITCH regretted the absence of the treasurer of the institution, and announced that although the funds of the college were stated not to be expected to exceed 600*l.* a-year, it was found necessary to have 700*l.* to cover all expenses, and therefore an effort would be needed to raise the additional money. Various votes of thanks concluded the proceedings.

WESTERN COLLEGE.

The annual meeting of the friends and supporters of this institution was held on Wednesday morning, at the Union Chapel, Courtenay-street, David Derry, Esq., in the chair. There was a good attendance both of ministers and laymen. The meeting opened with singing and prayer, and after a few introductory remarks from the CHAIRMAN, the SECRETARY (Alfred Rooker, Esq.) read the report, which stated that at the commencement of the past year there were fifteen students in the house, of whom four are preparing under the auspices of the London Missionary Society for missionary service, and there were at the close of this session fifteen students. The Rev. J. M. CHARLTON, M.A., referred to the course of study pursued in the Theological class, and read the report of the Rev. F. E. Anthony, M.A., as to the classical studies. Referring to the students the report says—

Since the last annual meeting Mr. W. H. Hinder has passed the matriculation at London University, and Mr. J. P. Bake graduated at the same University in October last. The answers of the students in their half-yearly examinations will be submitted to competent examiners, the results of the examinations being published with the report. During the past session the students have conducted 1,228 public services, of which 234 were wholly gratuitous. Their services have never been on the whole more acceptable, and in many cases they have been followed by very marked indications of the Divine blessing. Of former students, Mr. W. H. Edwards has settled as pastor of the Congregational church at Welford, in Northamptonshire, and is labouring there under encouraging circumstances. Mr. E. Hobbs has become

the pastor, under favourable auspices, of the Congregational church at Fareham, in Hampshire. Mr. R. H. Lovell has accepted a unanimous and pressing invitation to the pastorate of the church assembling in Glenorchy Chapel, Exmouth, and is labouring with much zeal and success; and Mr. H. Long has accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate of a church in Haverfordwest, and will enter upon his ministerial labours on the first Sunday in August. Two students, Mr. J. P. Bake and Mr. J. J. Cousins, are about to leave the college at the close of their respective terms, and the committee earnestly hope that suitable spheres of labour may be opened for their reception.

The treasurer's statement showed that the current income for the year had been about 1,009*l.*, and the expenditure 940*l.* But there is a balance of 158*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* against the institution for the current account, and 794*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.* on the building account. The Rev. J. LOCKWOOD moved the adoption of the report, and bore testimony to the proficiency of the students on theological subjects. The resolution was seconded by the Rev. J. HORSKY. The Rev. C. CHAPMAN, of Bath, moved a resolution appealing to the Congregational churches of the West of England for an enlarged and more constant support to the college, and urging the removal of the debt on the building and an augmentation of the annual income. The Rev. J. WOOD (Presbyterian) seconded the motion. The Rev. EDMUND MILLER, of Tavistock, then moved,—

That the debt due on the building account of the Western College being an addition to the current expenditure, and a serious obstacle to the prosperity of the college, be made the subject of an earnest appeal to all who feel an interest in the permanence and prosperity of English Congregationalism.

Mr. A. HUBBARD seconded the motion, and expressed a hope that the appeal would be so successful, that when they assembled together next year the treasurer would be in a position to present them with a much more favourable balance-sheet than he was able to show this year. (Applause.) The Rev. W. B. NOBLE, of Greenwich, in proposing that the best thanks of the meeting be given to the officers, examiners, and district secretaries of the past year, said it afforded him pleasure to be able to speak of the success which attended the students who had left the college; for he had found that several had become settled, useful, earnest, and devoted pastors of various churches; and he had an opportunity of hearing from various sources how acceptable their services had been, and how they had reflected honour on the college at which they were educated. He believed that, notwithstanding the divisions which had occurred in their denomination, the Western College had maintained its position as a thoroughly evangelistic college. The Rev. W. HARRINGTON seconded the resolution.

After some other votes of thanks, the Rev. NEWMAN HALL, LL.B., delivered a forcible and practical address to the students, in the course of which, he said that the predominant motive of everyone entering the Christian ministry should be the glory of Christ and the salvation of souls. He then pointed out some of the qualifications required by a minister, the difficulties he was likely to encounter, the necessity of definite doctrinal views, of simplicity as well as learning, and the importance of a thorough sympathy with the church and congregation. It was a difficult thing to preside over a spiritual democracy.

The student fresh from college fancied he had nothing to do but to preach. All at once he found himself the president of a religious democracy, and if he did not mind he would find his congregation was a regular failure, and very much disturbed, and then he would give it up perhaps, and go into the Church of England. In most cases it was the fault of the young man himself, for he was, generally speaking, quite a youth who had had no experience, and he thought his opinion must be taken, and that all his plans must be adopted. This was a great mistake. Whose fault was it if there was a rupture? Why, surely, his own fault, and his ignorance, and his self-conceit. Let him simply and sincerely seek God's glory, and let him pay proper deference to those who were older and more experienced in God's work and worship, and the result would be that he would earn that amount of respect which any minister had any right to claim. Then he would have the co-operation of the people, without which he could not succeed. There were always subordinate ways in which the preachers might be useful. It had been his lot to labour amongst large populations in Hull, and also in Southwark, where there were many thousands of working people. He had seen that the greatest curse throughout the country was the public-house drinking system. The great mass of the working people were kept from God's house by the beerhouses. He knew that in Southwark not three skilled artisans out of a hundred ever attended a church; they went to the public-house. The gentleman proceeded to impress upon his hearers the desirableness of practising self-denial in this respect, which would have a wonderful effect. During an experience of twenty-two years he could fairly say that he did not know one auxiliary to the ministry so useful as that of a little self-denial. He was within the compass when he said that every month one person joined the chapel at Surrey who had been led to attend church in consequence of having joined one of their temperance societies. During his ten years' experience there, 120 persons had been brought within the house of Christ in consequence of these temperance societies. During those ten years he had not known of a single case in which a drunkard had been converted to the church in any other way. He did not say that God could not do it, but God had not been pleased to do it. Another point in which he had had experience was getting hold of those classes who it was generally thought were out of their reach—he alluded to the working men. He had himself found no difficulty in this respect. His idea was that if the people would not come to the preachers it was the duty of the latter to go to them. If people would not go inside a church they would stand in the street and listen, and he and one of his colleagues regularly held services in Blackfriars-road, where on an average 300 workmen in their working-clothes stood and listened to them. Again, if

these people had meetings for their own improvement the preacher should attend them. They should give lectures on secular things, and he had found this course to be very useful. They had a little Gospel interwoven in the subject, and he found that some of those working men who came to hear a secular lecture said they never were inside a church until they came to hear the lecture, and then they found that persons could talk about something besides religion.

In the evening Mr. Hall preached an eloquent sermon at the Norley Chapel to a crowded congregation. The text was taken from the 28th chapter of Matthew, 20th verse:—"Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you, and lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world." At the conclusion a collection was made in aid of the funds of Western College.

RAWDON COLLEGE.

The annual meeting at the close of the session was held on Wednesday, June 22nd, at the College, Rawdon, Bradford, the Rev. Samuel G. Green, the president, in the chair. It was stated in the report that six students were leaving, and that six candidates, from a list of applicants more than twice as large, had been accepted after examination, to supply the vacant places; the applications for future admission into the college being more than sufficient to fill the college for two or three years to come. The Rev. A. M'Laren delivered a brilliant address to the students, which he has been requested to publish. Resolutions were passed by the committee acknowledging in the warmest terms the services rendered to the college by the tutors who had taught the classical and mathematical classes during the past session, viz., the Rev. W. S. Chapman, B.A., in the former department, and Mr. John Child, B.A., of Bradford, in the latter. The examiners' report showed that the work in both had been most efficiently carried on, and both Mr. Chapman and Mr. Child have received substantial tokens of respect and attention from the students, in the form of valuable sets of books. The Rev. W. Skae, A.M., of Edinburgh, had been elected as classical and mathematical tutor. Among the resolutions which followed the reading of the report was one cordially and earnestly requesting the Rev. J. P. Chown to take the honorary secretaryship of the college vacant by the Rev. H. Dowson's resignation. With this request Mr. Chown has complied. On retiring from office an admirable full-sized portrait of Mr. Dowson was taken with his consent to be placed in the college library, and Mr. Dowson was requested to accept of a splendid drawing-room time-piece, with candelabra, bearing an inscription appropriate to the occasion; while a sum of money (nearly 50*l.*) remaining of the subscription after the above purchases, was placed in Mr. Dowson's hands by W. Stead, Esq., the junior treasurer, who also made some suitable remarks. Mr. Dowson, in replying, delivered an excellent address, in which he reviewed the history of the college during his long connection with it; first as student, and afterwards for twenty-four years as secretary. The venerable Dr. Godwin closed the evening meeting by offering prayer and pronouncing the benediction.

BRISTOL COLLEGE.

On Wednesday afternoon the annual meeting of the members and subscribers of the Bristol Baptist College, Stoke's-croft-road, was held in the vestry of Broadmead Chapel. The proceedings in the chapel, where the students read essays and heard an address, were adjourned till the opening of the next session, on account of small-pox having broken out in the institution, which rendered it necessary for the students to retire to their homes. Mr. E. S. Robinson was called to the chair. The Rev. N. HAYCROFT (secretary) read the annual report, and Mr. J. EYRE (treasurer) read the financial statement, from which it appeared that the balance in hand at present was 62*l.* 1*s.* 1*d.* The report and accounts were passed, and the following resolution was also agreed to:—

That, with a view to an increase of the society's income, the trustees of the college funds be hereby authorised to sell out all the funded stock now standing in their names, and re-invest the same in such other securities as shall, to the best of their judgment and the committee's, conduce to the interests of the college.

A vote of thanks having been accorded to the chairman, the Rev. T. S. CRISP offered prayer, and the proceedings terminated. Subsequently the friends dined together at the Athenæum Lecture-hall.

THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY.—A meeting of the Conservative party was held on Monday afternoon, at the house of the Marquis of Salisbury in Arlington-street. In the absence of Lord Derby, the Earl of Malmesbury addressed the meeting. He lamented the unfortunate illness which alone prevented Lord Derby from attending, and explained at some length the reasons which induced him to desire that the same resolution which had been adopted for the House of Commons should also be moved in the House of Lords, but on a day which would probably render the final decisions of the two Houses as nearly as possible simultaneous. He then read the resolution, which differed only in a few words from that already the subject of debate in the House of Commons, and concluded by impressing upon the party the necessity of perfect unity of action. Several members of both Houses addressed the meeting, offering suggestions, or stating their acquiescence in the course to be pursued. The meeting separated with an expression of cordial regret that, in all probability, it would be impossible for Lord Derby to move the resolution upon which they had agreed. It was understood that, in Lord Derby's absence, the resolution would be moved by Lord Malmesbury.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

The advices from New York are to June 21st, and by telegram to the 23rd.

General Grant's new flanking movement commenced on Sunday, June 12th. The railway to White House, York River, was destroyed after Baldy Smith's corps had been embarked and sailed for the James River. On the 14th Grant effected his junction with Butler at Bermuda Hundred, on the south side of the James. It is said that he was positively gone eighteen hours before the enemy began to suspect what had happened. Grant's report of the operation is as follows:—

Our force drew out from within fifty yards of the enemy's entrenchments at Coal Harbour, made a flank movement of about fifty-five miles march, crossing the Chickahominy and James rivers, the latter 2,000 feet wide and eighty-four feet deep at the point of crossing, and surprised the enemy's rear at Petersburg. This was done without the loss of a waggon or piece of artillery, and only about 150 stragglers were picked up by the enemy.

Meanwhile Smith with his corps of 15,000 men had sailed up the James River, advanced towards Petersburg on the night of the 14th, and opened an attack on the following morning. Fighting continued throughout the day, but with no decided advantage to Smith until 7.30 p.m., when he carried a strong Confederate work two miles from the city, capturing thirteen cannon and 400 prisoners. When assistance reached the defenders it was only afforded by withdrawing the entire force which was engaged in keeping Butler cooped up at Bermuda Hundred. As soon as Butler had discovered its absence, he of course sallied out and tore up four or five miles of the railroad, and thus retarded the march of Lee's army, which was by this time hurrying southward, for a whole day. But Smith's first success was not followed up. It seemed when the first line was carried that the town was in possession of the Federals, and a despatch to this effect was sent North by some sanguine person. When the reinforcements from Lee arrived, the garrison fell back upon an inner line, drawing in their two wings, and occupying a semicircle, with the river in their rear.

On the 16th and 17th the remainder of Grant's army joined Baldy Smith and Hancock, and dislodged the Confederates from the greater portion of their outer defences, capturing 450 prisoners and four cannon. Meanwhile Lee's army had reached Petersburg. At 4 a.m. on the 18th an assault by the entire Federal forces upon the Confederates' inner line was repulsed with heavy loss. A second and third attack at noon and 4 p.m. met with similar results. No further attempt to carry the works had been made. Grant reported on the 19th that he was entrenched one mile and a half from the city. The Federal loss on the 17th and 18th is admitted to be 8,000, but is believed to have been much greater; Hancock's corps alone lost 4,200.

On the 20th General Grant, Butler, and Admiral Lee held a consultation on the flagship in the James River. It is unofficially stated that the surrender of Petersburg had been demanded and refused.

An important fresh movement by Grant was progressing on Wednesday, the 22nd inst.

On the 18th Birney's corps bombarded Petersburg at a range of 1,200 yards, doing, however, little damage. Lee reports that the Richmond and Petersburg railway damaged by Butler had been repaired. The Confederate line formed a semicircle in front of Petersburg—the flank resting on the Appomattox. Lee's whole army was supposed to be at Petersburg. Smith's corps had left Petersburg and returned to Bermuda Hundred, and the Confederates have reoccupied their position in front of Bermuda Hundred.

Respecting Grant's new movement the *Daily News* correspondent says:—

What will now be done by Grant remains to be seen. He lies on the railroad, and is on the south or rather east side of the river, so that as far as cutting the line of communication goes, he has accomplished his object. It is hard to say what the Confederates gain by holding the town except time. The point itself has, as long as Grant holds the railway, lost all strategic importance for them, except in so far as by holding it they impede his movements against the Danville road, and this is now evidently their aim. There is between thirty and forty miles between that road, the only one which now connects Richmond with the South, and the Appomattox, and I believe that every inch of this distance will be contested with the most desperate tenacity. I doubt if Petersburg itself will be held many days longer. The town is commanded by the Federal guns, and there is nothing in it worth saving, while the river in the rear renders it a ticklish position to defend against assaults. The immediate object of the present defence of it is, doubtless, to enable Lee to complete his arrangements elsewhere.

The most remarkable incident in the fight at Petersburg was the gallant behaviour of the negro troops, who stormed the portion of the works assigned to them—and it was perhaps the most formidable portion—with distinguished bravery. General Smith thanked them in person on the field. The exploit was performed in the presence of the rest of the army, who looked on rather doubtfully, and were somewhat astounded to see their sable brethren going over the ditch and parapet at a run and with a yell.

The news from Western Virginia was not favourable to the Federals. Lee had sent two whole divisions under Breckenridge, and a large cavalry force under Ewell, to oppose Hunter, and out of his retreat up the Shenandoah Valley. On the 18th, that Federal General attacked Lynchburg, and was

repulsed. The Confederate General Mosby has commenced operations in Hunter's rear. The great victory achieved over Sheridan by Fitzhugh Lee and Hampton, which General Lee reported the other day, proves to have been a Confederate defeat; at least, Sheridan reports that on the 12th inst. he had defeated the Confederates at Trevellian Station, and destroyed several miles of the Virginia Central Railroad south of Gordonsville. Sheridan advanced within five miles of Gordonsville, where the Confederates were strongly entrenched, but has since returned to Fortress Monroe, *via* the North Anna. The *Richmond Inquirer* states that Hunter, Crook, and Averill were at Forrest Station, ten miles west of Lynchburg, on the 16th, and had destroyed a portion of the Tennessee and Virginia Railway. Pope, with 4,000 men, was in the Shenandoah Valley, marching to co-operate. General Ransom had succeeded General Jones in the command of the Confederates in the Shenandoah Valley.

Sherman, on the 19th, reported that Johnston had retired behind the Chattahoochee River, and that he himself was advancing upon Marietta. On the 20th he contradicted the statement, and announced that the enemy had drawn in his right flank at Keneshaw Mountain, but still held his positions in the centre and left. His previous despatch was based upon information from his subordinate officers. Confederate despatches report Hooker repulsed with great slaughter in an assault upon Cleburne, of Johnston's army, near Marietta, on the 15th.

Sherman reports severe fighting on Sunday, the 19th, when Howard gained an important position, and repulsed the Confederates with a loss of 700 men, who attempted to retake it.

Bishop Polk is reported dead. On the 21st, President Lincoln left Washington for Grant's headquarters.

General Wheeler had seriously damaged the railroad at Calhoun, between Chattanooga and Sherman's position. Letters from Louisville confirm the announcement that Forrest was marching to attack Sherman's rear.

General Morgan had retired from Kentucky with the spoils of his recent raid.

Secretary Stanton had issued an order that five Confederate general officers should be placed under fire before Charleston, in retaliation for Federal officers having been placed under Federal fire in that town.

The blockade-runner *Pevensey*, with arms and stores, was run ashore near Beaufort, North Carolina, by the Federal steamer *Newbern*, on the 9th. She was blown up by her crew shortly after striking the beach. The estimated value of the vessel and cargo is 1,000,000 dols.

The Chicago Democratic Convention had been postponed until August. The Peace Democracy had resolved to support no presidential candidate who was in favour of the war. This would, it was thought, create a split in the Democratic camp.

President Lincoln, on his visit to Philadelphia, made a speech, in which he stated that Grant was in a position from which he never could be dislodged until Richmond was taken.

The Senate by a majority of three and the House Representatives by 100 to 50 had refused to repeal the commutation clause in the Conscription Act.

A joint resolution, which originated in the Senate, for the constitutional abolition of slavery, failed to receive the necessary two-thirds vote in the House of Representatives on the 15th; 94 members voted for, and 65 against it.

Mr. Vallandigham had left Canada and returned to Ohio. On the 15th he made a speech at a Democratic convention in Hamilton, in which he declared that he would hereafter defend his liberty with his life, unless deprived of it by due process of law. He subsequently proceeded to his residence at Dayton.

"Manhattan," the correspondent of the *London Standard*, has been apprehended by the military governor of New York, and is to be either "sent South" or confined in a prison till the end of the war.

The tenders for the new 6 per cent. loan for 70,000,000 dols. amounted to 90,000,000 dols. The Government accepted 41,000,000 dols., at an average of 4½ per cent. prem.

On the 20th, the bill prohibiting time transactions in gold and foreign exchange became law, and gold, which stood at 184½, suddenly jumped to 201. On the 23rd gold oscillated between 205 and 225, the whole markets being in confusion.

THE GERMANO-DANISH WAR.

The Prussians have captured Alesen. Eleven battalions of their army crossed the sound north of Sonderborg on the 29th, and drove back the Danes after some fighting. The Danes retired to their ships and embarked in haste. The Danish losses in the retreat from Alesen are officially reported to amount to 2,500 or 3,000 men, most of them being killed or wounded. This is a heavy loss. The Danish Minister of Marine announces that in the late capture of Alesen the Rolf Krake, although very hotly engaged, was but slightly injured. A ship-of-war, a gunboat, and two gun-sloops, succeeded in making good their escape from the Alesen Sound, while one gun-sloop and a jolly-boat were blown up, the crews, however, being saved.

The Prussians were erecting batteries on the Jutland coast, opposite Middlefart, in the island of Fünen. The Danes, at present, are doing their best to prevent the preparations for crossing into Fünen by keeping the coast harassed by their gunboats. A reconnaissance made by the two Danish men-of-war off the island of Rugen drew the fire of the German batteries upon them. Several shells struck

the ships, which thereupon sheered off. A party of Danes who landed at Limfjow, in Jutland, on Monday, were driven back with a loss of fifty taken prisoners.

An official Berlin journal states that Fünen is to be occupied at once; that Schleswig and Holstein will be placed under the common administration of the German Powers; that the Government and taxation of Jutland will be taken in hand by Austria and Prussia; and that these latter Powers have agreed fully upon the exact object and scope of the whole campaign. The Succession question Prussia, it is announced, considers doubtful—an ominous declaration for the Augustenburg candidate. Prussia, it is added, will in endeavouring to solve it consult her own interest and that of Germany—which means that she will regard the interest of Germany as identical with her own.

Paris journals report to the effect that Austria and Prussia are largely increasing the number of their troops in the Duchies, that all the Danish islands will be occupied, and even Copenhagen itself attacked.

Very considerable contributions have already been imposed upon the inhabitants of Jutland.

A circular despatch of Count Rechberg to the Austrian diplomatic agents abroad is published in the Vienna official paper. In this document the Austrian Minister reviews the proceedings of the late Conference, and throws the whole responsibility for its failure on Denmark, she having, he says, rejected the last proposition of the neutral Powers.

The Duke of Augustenburg received the address of the select committee of the Schleswig-Holstein Associations at Kiel on the 3rd. In his reply his Highness said that it was to be hoped that a division of Schleswig had been prevented by the active proceedings of the German Powers. He also expressed a hope that the claims put forward by the Grand Duke of Oldenburg would not defer the time when he (the Duke of Augustenburg) would be able to lead the Duchies against the common enemy. His Highness concluded:—

The interests of Germany and the welfare of the country demand a speedy settlement of public affairs on a firm basis. I may hope that the country will enable me to fulfil its obligations towards Germany, and to uphold the relations with that Power which will in future be our most effectual protection against Denmark.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

More than ten thousand emigrants arrived at the port of New York in the week ending June 4.

A Paris paper states that the French Government has made arrangements to receive 25,000 Circassian emigrants in Algeria.

The Emperor of Russia and his son are, after leaving Kissingen, to pay a visit of some days' duration to the King of Holland at the Hague.

Baron von Beust is now staying at Fontainebleau, and has been several times closeted with the Emperor.

The *Indépendance Belge* repeats the story that an armour-plated ship is nearly ready for Captain Semmes, to replace the *Alabama*. The new ship, it is said, was built at Bordeaux.

PRUSSIA AND THE ZOLLVEREIN.—The treaties for the renewal of the Zollverein, as proposed by Prussia, have been signed by the representatives of Prussia, Saxony, Baden, Electoral Hesse, Thuringen, Brunswick, and Frankfurt.

THE AFFGHANS.—A telegram from Bombay, *via* Suez, states that the Ameer of Affghanistan has defeated one of his brothers, who has fled into British territory, and that he is now marching against his other brothers.

FRENCH WINE BOTTLES.—M. Behic, French Minister of Commerce, is trying to emulate Sir Boyle Roche, and make wine-dealers put a pint into a pint bottle. Some Bordeaux houses, he says, have bottles blown "of which the bottoms enter into the interior," and so cheat their customers of twenty per cent. of wine. This he calls, very justly, "a dishonourable practice."

BLOCKADE-RUNNING.—The *Index* publishes a list of the vessels entering and leaving the ports of Wilmington and Charleston during the period from January 1, 1863, to April, 1864. From this list it results "that, during 15½ months, out of 590 attempted trips 498 were successful; in other words, as nearly as possible, of every six vessels that dared the blockade five went through, or that only one-sixth of the Confederate marine has been disturbed, speaking of cargoes and not of bottoms."

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen, accompanied by Princess Beatrice, came to London on Saturday, and visited the Prince and Princess of Wales at Marlborough House. Her Majesty drove from Marlborough House to Carlton-house-terrace, and visited the Duke of Newcastle, and afterwards Mr. Foley and Mr. Durham, inspecting the memorials of the Prince Consort now in execution by them at their studios. The Queen then went to Buckingham Palace, where the Duchess of Inverness had the honour of being received by her Majesty. The Prince and Princess Louis of Hesse joined her Majesty at Buckingham Palace, and travelled with her to Windsor in the evening. Her Majesty rode from the Palace to the Great Western station in an open carriage.

The Queen and the Princesses Helena, Louise, and Beatrice attended Divine service on Sunday morning in the private chapel, Windsor Castle. The Rev. E. W. Benson, Head Master of Wellington College, officiated.

Princess Helena and Princess Louise went to Canterbury on Saturday, and inspected the Cathedral. The Dean of Westminster, Lady A. Stanley, and Archdeacon Harrison, accompanied the Princesses.

A grand State ball was given at Buckingham Palace on Wednesday night, by the Prince and Princess of Wales, in the name and on behalf of her Majesty. The invitations were on an extended scale, in fact, the list included all the rank and fashion now assembled in the metropolis. The Princess of Wales wore a dress of black silk, covered with black and white tulle, handsomely trimmed with rich Brussels lace, flowers of mountain ash and lilies; tiara of diamonds, necklace, brooch, and earrings of diamonds. The Princess Helena wore a dress of tulle and crape over glacé silk, trimmed with pink roses and lilies of the valley. Head-dress of roses and lilies of the valley, and diamond ornaments and orders.

The Prince and Princess of Wales have had a very busy week. On Thursday they attended the annual speech-day at Harrow, and lunched with the Head Master. On Friday morning the Prince inspected the fire-brigade arrangements at Watling-street, and visited the floating-engine on the Thames. Afterwards, with the Princess, he was present at the proceedings of the speech-day at Wellington College. In the evening the Prince and Princess honoured the Duchess of Wellington with their company at her Grace's ball at Apsley House. On Saturday afternoon they went to the bazaar in aid of the Earlwood Idiot Asylum, at the Hanover-square Rooms. In the evening the Prince of Wales was entertained by the Master and Elder Brethren of the Corporation of the Trinity-house in their hall on Tower-hill. The master is Viscount Palmerston. The company numbered several most influential personages. Lord Palmerston proposed the health of the Prince, who responded briefly. The Prince and Princess attended Divine service at the Chapel Royal, St. James's, on Sunday morning. The Bishop of London preached from 1 Corinthians iv. 7, "For who maketh thee to differ from another?" On Monday the foundation-stone of a new west wing of the London Hospital was laid by the Prince, who was accompanied by the Princess. The proceedings were of a most pleasing character, and everything passed off most satisfactorily, the immense sum of 32,000*l.* being subscribed.

The Earl of Derby is at the present time suffering from a very severe attack of gout. His lordship, who was scarcely able to meet the Conservative members of the House of Commons who assembled at the Marquis of Salisbury's on Tuesday last week, is now compelled to keep his bed, and there is but little hope that he will be enabled for some days to be in his place in the House of Lords.

On Saturday night Viscountess Palmerston had a reception at Cambridge House, which was both numerous and brilliantly attended. Nearly 400 personages of distinction attended the *réunion*. The noble Premier did not join the circle till late, from the banquet at Trinity House to the Prince of Wales. The company separated at midnight.

On Wednesday, the *Raccoon*, which left Spithead on the previous Saturday, on her cruise to the coast of Norway, arrived in the Firth of Forth with Prince Alfred on board, and anchored in the Roads. The Prince landed and visited Edinburgh, going afterwards to Dalkeith House. The *Raccoon* is detained at Leith by illness on board.

The *Army and Navy Gazette* says:—"The *Wolverine* corvette has been ordered to proceed to Heligoland as the pioneer of the squadron which will be despatched northwards in the event of circumstances requiring the interference of England in the Dano-Germanic quarrel."

We have reason to believe that in the event of the Government obtaining a majority on the question of confidence raised by Mr. Disraeli, it is not now intended to dissolve Parliament before the spring of next year.—*Morning Star*.

The *Owl* states that "her Majesty is about to confer a baronetcy on Sir Charles Lyell."

The Queen has been pleased to appoint the Dean of Windsor to succeed Dr. Cureton as Crown Trustee of the British Museum.

Mr. Alfred Hill, son of Mr. M. D. Hill, Recorder of Birmingham, and Commissioner of the Bristol District Court of Bankruptcy, has been appointed Registrar of the Birmingham Bankruptcy Court, *vice* Mr. Wilson, resigned.

The London correspondents of the foreign papers have been pretty unanimous in the statement that the Cabinet was divided on the Danish question. There were, says the *Indépendance Belge*, six Ministers—Lord Palmerston, the Duke of Somerset, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Russell, Sir Charles Wood, and Sir George Grey—in favour of war, and nine Ministers—Lord Clarendon, Mr. Gladstone, Lord Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Mr. Cardwell, Earl de Grey, Lord Stanley of Alderley, Mr. Gibson, and Mr. Villiers—against war.

MADELINE SMITH.—A week or two ago we copied from the *Inverness Advertiser* an affecting story of the death from a broken heart of the celebrated Madeleine Smith, an event following close, it was said, upon the death of her husband from melancholy. A local correspondent, who is well acquainted with Madeleine's husband, informs us that the story about her husband's death is a pure fiction; that, so far from its being true, Madeleine is now living with her husband, an artist, in London, and may be seen almost any day in the neighbourhood of Brompton, looking anything but broken-hearted, and in the best of health and spirits.—*Birmingham Daily Post*.

THE LATE MR. WASHINGTON WILKS.

On Wednesday an inquest, under the auspices of Dr. Lankester, coroner for Middlesex, was held on the body of Mr. Washington Wilks, whose untimely death has excited general public regret. At the time of the lamentable occurrence it was supposed that he had died from disease of the heart, but the *post-mortem* examination revealed apoplexy as the cause of death. Effusion of the brain was no doubt produced by the excitement of public speaking. At the inquest, Dr. H. C. Andrews, of Oakley-square, said he saw the deceased shortly after removal from the Vestry Hall, but he was dead. He had since, in conjunction with Dr. Saul, of St. Pancras Infirmary, made a *post-mortem* examination. The brain, which weighed forty-eight ounces, was much congested with fluid, but not clotted with blood. The heart was large, but the valves were healthy. The stomach contained a quantity of undigested food, principally meat and potatoes. The cause of death was serous apoplexy, no doubt produced by the excitement of his speaking. The jury ultimately returned a verdict, "That the deceased died from the effects of congestion of the brain, produced from sudden excitement." Mr. Wilks was thirty-eight years of age at the time of his death, and has left a wife and six children, very inadequately provided for. We understand that the policies of insurance on his life will yield but little for his family, and that a committee is being organised to receive subscriptions on their behalf, as a testimonial to his services to the public.

On Saturday afternoon all that was mortal of the late Mr. Washington Wilks was consigned to its last earthly resting-place in the quiet cemetery at Norwood. At about three o'clock the funeral cortege, which consisted simply of a hearse, two mourning coaches, and a brougham, left the deceased gentleman's residence at Forest-hill, and proceeded at a slow pace towards the cemetery. The first carriage was occupied by Mrs. Wilks, widow of deceased, and her eldest son; the Rev. Mark Wilks, brother of deceased; and the Rev. Thos. Lynch, minister of Hampstead-road Chapel. The second carriage contained Mr. E. Miall and Mr. Bower, and the brougham Mr. F. W. Chesson, of the *Morning Star*, and another gentleman. Immediately inside the entrance to the cemetery about a hundred gentlemen, friends and admirers of deceased, had assembled for the purpose of paying a last tribute of respect to one whom in life they had so much esteemed and prized. Amongst this silent group were deputies from the Universal League, the United Kingdom Alliance, and the Working Men's Garibaldi Committee, in all which bodies the late Mr. Wilks had taken much interest, and to all which he had rendered some good service. On arriving at the chapel the procession filed off, lining the footpath on each side, and through this avenue of sorrowing friends the hearse and carriages passed on to the chapel porch. The body having been removed into the chapel, Mr. Lynch ascended the pulpit, and in a very earnest, impressive manner, not alone read the funeral service, but delivered a touching address in reference to the career of the deceased gentleman. After the service the body was borne to the grave, around which the mourners gathered. After a short pause, the Rev. Mr. Lynch delivered a brief, but eloquent, touching, and instructive address, and concluded the service in the usual manner.

AID TO COLOURED REFUGEES IN AMERICA.

On Monday evening, June 27th, a numerous company assembled at the residence of Mr. Samuel Gurney, M.P., at 25, Princes-gate, to meet and hear a statement from Mr. Levi Coffin, a member of the Society of Friends in America, relative to the condition of the freed slaves who have escaped to the Federal lines. Besides the host and hostess, the company included Lord Alfred Churchill, M.P., Mr. Charles Buxton, M.P. the Hon. A. Kinnaird, M.P., Mr. Gregson, M.P., Mr. J. B. Braithwaite, the Rev. S. Crowther, Bishop-designate of the Niger, Mr. Backhouse, the Rev. Alexander Raleigh, and many other ministers, ladies, and gentlemen. Mr. Levi Coffin's credentials, from Secretary Chase and other important persons in America, were read, and Mr. Coffin stated the object of his mission to this country. The Western Freedman's Aid Commission was established about the beginning of 1863 for the purpose of assisting both in a temporal and spiritual point of view the negroes who have escaped and been sent away from their Southern masters into the Federal lines. The condition of these poor creatures is described as quite heartrending. The following is an extract from a letter written at Vicksburg by one of the society's agents:—"When General Sherman was returning from his expedition, he was asked how many coloured people were in his train. He answered 'Ten miles.' The number who came in in March was about 5,500. They are coming in daily in squads of from five to fifty, and the rearward had not yet arrived. Hundreds of the children are literally naked. A large number of the women had a dress of some sort, but as to other clothing, it was not to be seen. These dresses were made of pieces of old tents, others of the last remnants of a slave's wardrobe that had not been replenished for three years. The men had clothing made of pieces of old carpeting, ragged horse blankets, sacking for baling cotton, &c.; hats, caps, and bonnets were a curiosity to them, boots and shoes had long been forgotten, stockings a negative quantity. In this instance, as in every great movement of the army, are brought in the ragged,

destitute, suffering, starving, sick, wretched, naked negroes. These are scattered in plantations at different points on the river, and are still suffering greatly for clothing. I visited a slave plantation the other day, where 384 of these negroes had been left. Of these over 300 have no change of clothing." Mr. Coffin has devoted several years to the work of helping the negroes, and since the association which he has come over to command has been formed, he has been enabled to transmit to the freed negroes a very large quantity of clothing and other goods, with many thousands of school books, Bibles, &c., besides a large number of packages, &c., involving an outlay of about 30,000 dols. Mr. Coffin urgently appeals to the English people for help to carry on the good work. One of the chief objects of this association is to place the negroes in a position to earn their own living instead of being dependent upon others' charity. After sundry short addresses from Mr. Charles Buxton, the Rev. Samuel Crowther (the coloured bishop elect), Mr. Bevan Braithwaite, Mr. Henry Christy, and others, it was resolved that a committee should be formed, with Sir Fowell Buxton as chairman, to assist in the carrying on of this most benevolent undertaking.

Postscript.

Wednesday, July 6, 1864.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

(Per the Belgian, *via* Greencastle.)

NEW YORK, June 24 (Evening).

Fighting on General Grant's left continued all Tuesday night. The result is unknown. The Federals lost four guns. Grant has blockaded the James River below Fort Darling with sunken vessels. He is reported to be moving from before Petersburg to Bermuda Hundreds.

YORK, June 25 (Morning).

On Tuesday Grant moved Wright's and Hancock's corps from right to left, in order to cover the Weldon Railroad more closely and invest Petersburg. Whilst marching he had heavy skirmishing with Hill's corps. The Confederates being found in force entrenched, General Grant ordered the whole army forward, and formed line of battle. A general engagement was expected on Thursday. Wilson's cavalry has destroyed a portion of the Weldon Railroad.

The Southern papers assert that Hunter's forces were overtaken retreating from Lynchburg to Liberty, and large numbers of them captured.

NEW YORK, June 25 (Evening).

Hancock's corps was repulsed on Wednesday, near the Weldon Railroad. His loss was over 1,000 prisoners and 1,500 wounded. He afterwards advanced and regained his position on Thursday.

Grant's whole line advanced, and found the Confederates strongly entrenched. Wright's corps advanced to the Weldon Railroad, and commenced destroying the track. The Confederates are advancing towards them. (Per the *Times* Correspondent.)

NEW YORK, June 24.

There are indications of a retrograde movement, if not of a forced retreat, of the Potomac army. No details are known or permitted to be published.

Prior and unofficial despatches from City Point report an engagement on the left of Grant's line, lasting throughout the night of the 21st, in which the Federals lost heavily in killed and wounded, besides four cannon.

They also report an assault by Fitzhugh Lee and Hampton on White House on the 21st, which was defeated owing to the arrival of Sheridan with reinforcements and the participation of Federal gunboats.

June 25, afternoon.

On Wednesday General Hill slipped through a gap in Grant's line between the Second and Sixth Corps, suddenly attacked the Second in the rear, and drove it in confusion from its entrenchments. Upwards of 3,000 Federals were killed, wounded, or captured.

Skirmishing continued throughout the afternoon and night, when the Confederates retired to a strong position, which they still hold.

Gold, 220. Cotton, 145 to 146.

THE DANO-GERMAN WAR.

COPENHAGEN, July 4 (1.58 p.m.)—The enemy continues to be busily employed in erecting batteries at Middelfahrt, opposite Funen. The official *Færlingske Tidende* of to-day announces that the Swedish squadron has received orders to put to sea immediately.

BERLIN, July 5.—The *Nord Deutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* of to-day states that the bringing forward of the Oldenburg claim to the Duchies was not the result of a secret agreement between Prussia and Russia, since no such agreement has been made or intended. The *Nord Deutsche Zeitung* adds:—"The concessions made by the German Powers at the Conference were only valid so long as the Conference lasted, and would have no validity now, when the fresh obstinacy of the Danes has caused the war to break out anew."

PARIS, July 5.—The *Pays* of this evening publishes a letter from Copenhagen, dated the 1st inst., stating that a rumour was current and generally believed there that the King was disposed to make peace. The journey of Prince John to Berlin is said to be an indication of such a desire.

The *Press* of Vienna publishes intelligence from Copenhagen, stating that King Christian had personally and directly requested the protecting intervention of the Emperor of the French.

THE WAR IN NEW ZEALAND.

(By telegraph from Suez.)

MELBOURNE, May 26.

Advices from New Zealand announce that the troops besieged Galepa on the 27th ult. An attempt was made to carry the position by storm, but the British troops were repulsed by the natives with severe loss. Colonel

Booth and five officers of the 43rd Regiment were killed. The Maori loss was 100. Their leader had since been defeated by friendly natives.

The Italian Chamber of Deputies have passed a vote of confidence in the Government by a majority of 182 to 126 votes.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords last night, the Earl of SHAFTESBURY asked whether the statement in the newspapers, that four hundred Swedish volunteers, taken by the Prussians at Alsen, had been massacred, was true. He denounced the act, if it had been committed, as most atrocious. Earl RUSSELL said the Government had no information of the occurrence, but would make inquiries on the subject.

In reply to Lord CRANWORTH, Lord BROUGHAM said he did not intend to proceed this session with the Bribery at Elections Bill.

Several bills were advanced a stage, and the House adjourned at twenty minutes to seven o'clock.

THE VOTE OF CENSURE.

In the House of Commons the adjourned debate on Mr. Disraeli's vote of censure was resumed by Mr. COBDEN, who said he was in favour of the amendment of Mr. Kinglake. He was constrained to admit that the policy of our Foreign Office had broken down, but he denied that the securities for peace were lessened thereby. The effect would be to remove these questions from the dark recesses of the Foreign Office to the publicity of the House, and that would afford the best guarantee for peace. He agreed that the despatches showed great want of sagacity on the part of the Foreign Minister, who had exposed the department to humiliation in all parts of the world. But out of the debate came questions of great importance as to our foreign policy. Two issues were raised by the Dano-German dispute. One was as to the dynastic and irresponsible engagements of the Foreign Office, the other the question of nationalities. The Treaty of 1852 professed to settle the destinies of some millions of people without ever taking the wishes of those people into account. The result was seen in the war. In truth, the Governments of Austria and Prussia had been playing the part of demagogues of the German people in respect to their quarrel with Denmark, and there was none so subservient to the passions of a people as the accepted demagogue. The time for passing over the wishes of the people had gone, and there would in future be no Holy Alliance of Sovereigns. He thought we had been quite right in offering mediation in the Schleswig-Holstein dispute. But there was too much tendency in the country to forget the line which separated the mediator from the partisan. They had had proof of this in the tone of some of the public journals, and in the incendiary language of some members of the other House. A great deal had been said about sending our fleet to the Baltic. But what could it do? Blockade a few Prussian ports to no purpose save to increase the cost of the carriage of corn and other articles which we now got from there by sea, but which would then be carried by railway to French and Belgian ports. The truth was, that while we were perfectly safe from the attacks of the world, we could do but little in a continental war. At present we had armies in India, China, Japan, British North America, New Zealand, Ashantee, and other places, and how could these forces be concentrated if we got into a war with Germany? Why, then, should we have had such menaces uttered as that spoken by Earl Russell at Blairgowrie? The danger was of our being entrapped into war by the policy of the Foreign Office, while the House itself was strongly in favour of peace. There were not fifty members of the House who would vote for war. As between those who were in office and those who sought to get office, there was not much to choose. He blamed the Opposition for seeking to remove Lord Palmerston. The noble lord did the work of the Opposition much more efficiently than Lord Derby could. He threw discredit on reform, derided those who voted for the ballot, and was more extravagant than the Opposition would be allowed to be if in office. These were reasons why the Opposition should not seek to upset the noble lord. He (Mr. Cobden) was sure the time was past when we should plunge into war in respect to our foreign relations. Our diplomacy, it was true, had broken down. That proved the necessity of a change of the system, and such a change must speedily be made.

Lord ROBERT CEIL said that he could have wished that the vote of the hon. gentleman (Mr. Cobden) would be given in the way his speech had gone. He believed if the hon. gentleman had been Foreign Secretary, instead of Earl Russell, the country would have occupied a position proud and noble compared with that which it now held. He condemned the policy generally of the Government, and called upon the House to carry the vote of censure.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER said the question was whether the Opposition should be placed in power. Before they agreed to that, they ought to know what would be the policy of the Opposition. No intimation had been given of it, but on the contrary, most diverse opinions had been expressed. He therefore could not vote for the motion.

The debate was continued by Mr. B. Johnstone, Lord H. Vane, Mr. Liddell, Lord B. Montagu, and Mr. Whalley. Mr. ROEBUCK, while condemning the foreign policy of the Government, did not think the Opposition would do any better. Mr. HORSMAN in a warlike speech argued that the influence of England had been lessened, but that it was chiefly Parliament that was to blame for it. He opposed the motion. Mr. S. Fitzgerald having spoken in favour of the motion, the debate was adjourned to Thursday on the motion of Mr. LAYARD.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at one o'clock.

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

The supply of home-grown wheat on sale here to-day was very moderate. However, the trade both for red and white qualities was in a sluggish state, at Monday's currency. The market was moderately supplied with foreign wheat. Prime red American descriptions changed hands to a moderate extent at late rates.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 6, 1864.

SUMMARY.

THE Conservative Peers, impatient of inaction while the battle is raging round them, have resolved to have a conflict,—short and decisive,—which will occupy only one night. On Friday, the Earl of Malmesbury, in Lord Derby's absence, is to move substantially the same resolution as that now being debated in the Lower House. The idea seems to be that their Lordships will divide on the same evening, somewhat in advance of the Commons, and that an assured majority of the Conservatives in the one House will strengthen the Conservatives in the other. But the Lords have no fear of an immediate dissolution. That apprehension, and the general drift of the debate, thus far appears to be operating in the Commons favourably for the Government. But the Ministerial *Globe* gives to the Opposition a compact minority of 300 votes in the final struggle, which leaves no margin for a very decided majority on either side.

The general prosperity and elastic resources of the country have been once again registered in the Revenue and Board of Trade Returns. The deficit caused by remissions on the tea-duty and the income-tax is almost filled up. The net decrease of the yearly revenue is reduced to 690,902*l.*, while an increase of nearly two millions in the Excise duties for the year points to increased consumption and revived commerce. The trade returns are of the same hue. For the first five months of the year our exports were a little over sixty-four millions; 20 per cent. over those of 1863. The increase is greatly owing to the revival of the exportation of cotton goods, which has been 25 per cent. more in the first five months of 1864 than in the corresponding period of 1863. A bountiful harvest, of which there seems to be a fair expectation, will give a fresh impetus to the revenue, and renewed activity to trade.

It is painful in the extreme to record the heavy and self-invited misfortunes of the gallant Danes. Alsen has been captured by the Prussians, and with it fully one-twentieth part of the Danish army has been disabled or taken. The Germans are despoiling Jutland of all its available resources, and preparing to invade the island of Funen. Isolated, beaten, despairing, it is said that Denmark is, all too late, though better late than never, seeking terms of peace from her all-powerful antagonists. King Christian's brother has gone to Berlin, according to report, to open negotiations. We may be sure that M. von Bismarck will drive the hardest of bargains with the suppliant little State.

German diplomacy has been thrown into a fever of excitement by the publication in the *Morning Post* of a series of so-called despatches which are said to have passed between the representatives of Russia, Austria, and Prussia. With great cleverness and in diplomatic language these documents profess to reveal the secret intentions of the Northern Courts, announce the renewal of the Holy Alliance, proclaim that the spoliators of Poland have resolved to give each other mutual support in defending their ill-gotten territory, and that Austria is to be sustained against any assailant on the Italian frontier. M. Bismarck and the official journal of Vienna hasten to denounce these papers as "pure inventions," and while the European press cannot deny the forgery, it chuckles that the fabricator has given felicitous though unauthorised expression to the policy and opinions of the Northern Powers.

By the secrecy of his new flank movement, Grant stole a march upon his Confederate an-

tagonist. While the main body of the Federals were crossing the James River, General Smith had gone round Fort Monroe, landed at Bermuda Hundred, attacked Petersburg, and taken the outer works of that city. But the place was too strong to be captured by a *coup de main*, and on Grant's arrival he found the defences lined by Lee's army, and was repulsed with a loss of some 6,000 men. But the Federal General had not abandoned his design of taking Richmond, and seems to be aiming at destroying the railway between that city and Petersburg, breaking the line running from the Confederate capital to Danville, and further isolating Lee by interrupting his communications with Lynchburg. But Lee had been able to send a large force against General Hunter in the Shenandoah valley, which had driven him back in disorder; Sheridan had been obliged to retreat, and hurry to the protection of White House, assailed by the Confederate cavalry; and, by the last accounts, Grant's utmost efforts to pierce the Confederate lines, and destroy the railway in their rear, had been repulsed with great slaughter, though the final issue of the attempt was still uncertain. Down in Georgia also, Sherman was at a stand, unable to dislodge Johnston from his strong position in the mountains, and obliged to act upon the defensive, instead of advancing on Atlanta.

THE GOVERNMENT ON ITS TRIAL.

THE great debate on which not only the present fate of the Ministry and of Parliament hangs, but the course and termination of which will greatly influence the interests of this country and of Europe, has commenced with a solemnity befitting the occasion. From the speeches of Mr. Disraeli and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the general scope of the controversy between her Majesty's Government and the Opposition may be pretty safely inferred. There is no difference of opinion as to the propriety of the Ministerial decision to abstain from going to war with Germany on account of the Schleswig-Holstein dispute. All parties are agreed that war undertaken single-handed by England in such a cause, would, in the words of Lord Stanley, "be an act, not of impolicy, but of insanity." The question to be decided is whether, knowing, as the Government must or ought to have known, that England could not without allies resort to arms, it has wisely shaped its diplomacy so as to make it harmonise with that contingency—and then, if they have not, whether their error can be corrected or erased by dismissing them from office, and placing Lord Derby at the helm.

On the first and more abstract of these questions, our judgment has been unfavourable to Ministers. We thought, and still think, that the foreign policy of this country, under the conduct of Earl Russell and Lord Palmerston, so far at least as relates to continental affairs, and especially to the Dano-German quarrel, had been needlessly intrusive—that neither was the advice which we gave to Denmark sufficiently guarded to prevent her from deriving from it the expectation that in case of her adopting it we should assist her, nor were the menaces we addressed to Germany so discreetly weighed, that in case of her disregarding them, we could decline carrying them into effect, and yet uphold our credit. In substance, that is our opinion still. But we are bound to admit that the circumstances under which these things occurred which appeared to us unjustifiable, somewhat modify the strength of our disapprobation. The Government, so far as they have made themselves responsible for either advice or menace implying a possibility of following it up with more determined action, thought they were speaking the views and intentions, not of England alone, but of France and Russia. As soon as they were undeceived on this point, they prudently changed their tone—and since their conviction that their voice was not an expression of the authority of the neutral Powers, they have strenuously laboured to bring the quarrel to an end with as little disturbance and bloodshed as possible. Their first idea was that what they said and did was said and done in the name, with the authority, and on behalf of the interests of the preponderate strength of Europe,—and they assumed a tone supposed to befit the immense force, moral and material, they believed themselves to represent—their later conviction, forced upon them by events, was that England would be left alone to sustain any position she might choose to take, and they thenceforth adapted their policy and their language to the unexpected isolation in which they found themselves.

So far as the debate has yet proceeded, it appears to us to have brought out into a much clearer light the following points:—that the London Treaty of 1852, was not due to gratuitous intermeddling on the part of England in

a continental matter which could hardly even remotely concern her, but was the outcome of a mediation undertaken at the solicitation of both the then belligerents,—an outcome thankfully accepted by both; that the prominent part which was taken by the Government of this country last autumn and winter to save the Treaty from aggression, was taken because it was held becoming that the mediating Power whose work was menaced should be the first to defend and uphold it; that the idea of Ministers was, not that England was entitled to dictate her will to either Denmark or Germany, but, having been the successful agent in drawing up and settling that part of the public law of Europe which twelve years ago harmonised the relations between the two, she was bound to interpret its force to both parties on the bursting forth afresh of the old quarrel, and to call upon the co-signatories to maintain its authority; that, if she was not justified, she reasonably thought herself justified, in believing that France, Russia, and Sweden, took the same view as herself of the Treaty and of what was due to it; that as soon as she had ascertained that this was not so, she ceased to make the enforcement of it the end of her policy, and joined with them in endeavouring to bring the belligerents to reason; that their failure in this attempt must be attributed to events which they had no right to anticipate, and which they could not control; and that the policy for which the Opposition seek to censure the British Government, is one for the adoption of which the co-signatories are fully as responsible as England, if not more so. She first spoke in the name of public law, and she was not sustained—she then spoke in the interests of peace, but to no effectual purpose, although others joined her.

This we take to be a fair and dispassionate statement of the Ministerial case. We cannot say that, in our judgment, it is a complete justification of the policy they have pursued. But, if fully sustained, it at least disposes of the charge levelled against them by the Opposition. As against their Conservative antagonists the defence strikes us as valid and successful. If Mr. Disraeli's speech can be safely taken as rightly interpreting their views, their disapprobation hits, not the high-handed conduct of Government when they supposed they were representing the will of Europe, but the change in their air and conduct when they discovered their mistake. He finds no fault with the Treaty of 1852—he approves the general policy of England towards Denmark and Germany in reference to their disputes since the Treaty was signed—he vindicates the now famous declaration of Lord Palmerston that "if any violent attempt were made to overthrow the rights and interfere with the independence of Denmark, those who made the attempt would find that it would not be Denmark alone with which they would have to contend." He admits that we were not legally bound to give armed assistance to that ill-used country. He does not dissent from the final resolution of neutrality which Ministers have announced since the breaking up of the Conference. He expressly asserts that he has drawn up his resolutions of censure in the interests of peace. Now, the preamble seems to us to be sadly at a variance with the conclusion. How he would have made good Lord Palmerston's threat which he holds to have been statesman-like, and at the same time preserved a peace which he would deem it impolitic to have interrupted, without abating those high pretensions which were not backed by other Powers, does not appear. We think the first assumption was, as indeed the event proved it to be, a mistake—a natural mistake, perhaps—and that the chief wisdom displayed by the Government was their correction of it on the instant it was discovered. Mr. Disraeli thinks that this correction was a proof of "utter incapacity"—but he does not tell the country what other course would have harmonised with Lord Palmerston's language of menace, and yet kept us out of war.

On the whole, and quite irrespectively of the domestic policy of the country, we do not believe the indictment against her Majesty's Government has been so framed as to merit a verdict of "Guilty." We can conceive of one which would have deserved success—but it is one which the statesmen who hope to succeed the present occupants of office could not and durst not have adopted—for in so doing they would have condemned themselves. We do not affect any great concern at the prospect of a change of Government, nor do we anticipate from the change, should it come, any direct benefit to the country. But we should deeply regret to see them driven from office under false pretences. We should grieve to have seen a shadow of doubt cast upon the wisdom of their latest decision. They have had the moral courage to abstain from war when there were not wanting many, both at home and abroad, who strove hard by taunts to goad them into it. We can forgive

their earlier errors, all the more readily because when they were found to be errors they were promptly abandoned. They have placed themselves, they have been placed by other Powers, at a disadvantage. But their intent was honest, and their aim was peace. It is not on such ground that we could wish to witness their defeat. Neither do we expect it. They will be hard pressed, no doubt. An inadequate majority may render it advisable to appeal to the constituencies. But we cannot believe that the country will, in the end, and in substance, ratify with its sanction Mr. Disraeli's resolutions. To a change of men, where there is to be no change of policy, the people of England seldom incline.

PROSPECT OF A GENERAL ELECTION.

ALTHOUGH confidently anticipating that the division which will follow the debate of this week will show a majority in favour of the Government, it is extremely uncertain whether that majority will be sufficiently decided to lead Ministers to the conclusion that an immediate dissolution of Parliament will be inexpedient. There are several reasons why, if they really desire to maintain the ascendancy of Liberalism in the House of Commons, they might be induced to postpone a General Election till next year. If taken now, it will seriously interfere with harvest operations—it will be taken on a register held to be rather favourable than otherwise to Conservative success—and it will be taken without that matured preparation, which, while it is more necessary to the popular party than to their better organised and disciplined opponents, is generally neglected by them until necessity looks them in the face. At the same time, we can conceive that Lord Palmerston would hardly regret to be furnished with a fair pretext for appealing to the country at once rather than in the midst, or after the close, of another Parliamentary Session. Should Mr. Disraeli's motion be defeated by a bare majority, it will be open to him to urge that the Government would reckon it a serious disadvantage to be compelled to deal with grave questions of policy likely enough to present themselves during the recess, in the absence of that moral support which nothing but a decided and reliable majority can assure to them. To his view also, it may appear a fortunate conjuncture rather than otherwise, which will enable him to go to the country without any profession of principles, and to make the elections turn upon a purely personal question, under cover of a *quasi* alternative between a policy of peace or war. We are informed that the Conservatives reckon on three hundred votes at the approaching trial of party strength. If so, the margin left for a Ministerial triumph cannot be very large. Should they be able to secure twenty-five above that number, they will probably deem an early dissolution uncalled-for and untimely. But if their majority should fall short of twenty, it will depend upon their own disposition whether or no they shall wind up the business of the Session, and immediately dissolve.

Now, we wish to point out to our friends that even a narrow Parliamentary majority against Mr. Disraeli's resolutions will dispose of them so far as they are intended as a censure on Ministers for their conduct of the Dano-German policy. The country will not need to be asked its verdict on that policy, unless it be distinctly condemned by the House of Commons. Were the issue set before it one involving peace or war, all minor matters would be instantly and properly laid aside; or were Ministers condemned for resolutely adhering to a course of neutrality, it would behove those who appreciate the immense worth of that decision to reverse the judgment, even at some considerable risk of damage to questions of internal policy. But unless the Tories manage to obtain an actual majority in the inchoate struggle, no such question will be before the country. Nor will any other of permanent interest. The sole question upon which the mind of the country will be consulted will be whether the reins of government shall continue where they are for a brief while longer, or whether they shall pass into the hands of Lord Derby—the policy of both being substantially the same, foreign and domestic. This will leave the friends of religious equality freedom to take measures for the advancement of their principle by all prudent and temperate efforts, without endangering a single object of great and vital public interest. At any rate, the contest will not assume such a character of urgent national importance as would justify them in putting their cause in temporary abeyance.

"Forewarned is forearmed" says the old adage. We hope it will be so in the present instance. We may have a General Election next month—we must have one next year. The first is a probability—the second is a certainty. Immediate preparation is indispensable in the first

case—is desirable, for it will not be premature, in the last. We cannot do wrong, therefore, in strongly urging our friends to take instantly the steps requisite to a determination of the course which it may be most advisable for them to pursue. In most constituencies they will be able to foresee whether any change in the representation be needful, and if needful, practicable. If new members are likely to be invited, measures may now be concerted to secure candidates who among their other Liberal professions, will include that of doing justice to Nonconformists. If old members are to be retained, they should be made to see that the question of religious equality occupies a prominent place in the minds of at least a portion of their constituents. Under no circumstances should vague generalities be accepted as satisfactory. Even in those individual instances in which support will be given to a Liberal, for the sake of his political professions, and in spite of his politico-ecclesiastical demerits, we earnestly hope that care will be taken to explain to the candidate why the vote is given, and with what serious abatement of heartiness and trust, that he may know at least that such of his supporters are acting under no delusive confidence in his entire fitness for his post. It is somewhat humiliating, we confess, to conceive that such cases may occur—but, however few they may be comparatively, occur they will.

It is not our present intention, however, to describe the variety of courses which a variety of local circumstances may render most expedient. What we desire to impress upon our friends is the propriety, we might almost say the indispensable necessity, of taking forthwith those steps which are requisite to carry into effect whatever determination they may either have arrived at, or may contemplate as fitting their position in the constituency, and the circumstances by which it is affected. Whatever is to be done should be done at once. A month hence may possibly be too late. Decision and promptitude are among the chief secrets of electoral success.

NOTES OF THE SESSION.

THE great debate of the Session commenced on Monday. It was an occasion when the enthusiastic British sight-seer is prepared to make sacrifices. There were all the morning crowds of "strangers" besieging the gallery of the House of Commons—one having made assurance doubly sure by appearing long before the ordinary breakfast hour—one-tenth part of whom, albeit armed with the magic pass, could not be squeezed into the allotted space. The lobbies overflowed; Westminster Hall forgot its solitude, and even Palace-yard was alive with people, who found vent for their excitement in cheering popular members. In-doors, the capacity of a chamber built for architectural effect rather than convenience was sorely tested. It will not hold nearly all who have a right to be there. But on Monday, room had also to be found for a phalanx of peers and "distinguished strangers," and the House has probably never before been so completely packed, though the interest cannot have been so intense as on the preceding Monday, when Lord Palmerston explained the policy of the Government on the Danish question.

It was about half-past four when Mr. Disraeli rose to unfold, not a policy, but a bill of indictment against the Government, prefaced by a speech of some three hours' duration, in which he endeavoured, not unsuccessfully, to present old facts and arguments in a new dress, and in that dramatic style of which he is the consummate master. The self-imposed task of the Conservative orator was to prove that the avowed policy of the Government had failed—that, thereby, our just influence in the counsels of Europe had been lowered, and that, consequently, the securities of peace were diminished. With fifteen hundred pages of Blue Books to manipulate, a less ingenious advocate than Mr. Disraeli could have found ample material to sustain his charge; and until his watchful antagonist rose on the other side, he seemed to have triumphantly proved his case. All that argument, appeal, apt quotation, measured invective, brilliant antithesis, the nice collocation of facts and phrases, bursts of lofty patriotism, and—it must be added—plentiful clap-trap, could do to establish a foregone conclusion, was done by the Opposition leader. A policy which began with impotent menace, ended with an abortive conference—a six weeks' carnival of masks and mystification. Can anything be more picturesque than the following summary given of the laborious failure of Ministers to assist Denmark, and maintain the moral influence of the country?—

Within twelve months we have been twice repulsed at St. Petersburg—we have supplicated more than once in vain at Paris; we have menaced Austria, and Austria has allowed our threats to pass her like the wind—(cries of "Hear, hear," from the Opposition bench)—we have

threatened Prussia, and Prussia has defied us; our oburgations have rattled on the heads of the German Diet, and the German Diet has treated them with contempt. (Loud Opposition cheers.) Sir, within the last few months there is scarcely a form of diplomatic interference that has not been suggested and adopted by the English Government, except a congress. (Laughter.) A conference of Vienna, a conference of Paris, a conference of London, all in their turn have been suggested—joint mediation, sole mediation, original notes, relative notes, identic notes, sole notes, or notes joint and separate. (Laughter and cheers.) Couriers have been scouring Europe in exuberant rapidity; and, Sir, last of all, a most important conference was held in the Cabinet of the Queen, over which the chief minister of our foreign relations presided; it was attended with all the pomp and solemnity requisite for so great an enterprise, but we find that its sittings have been perfectly barren, and the chief Ministers of the Crown close the proceeding by quitting the battle scene of their exertions, and appearing in the two Houses of Parliament to tell the country that they have no ally, and that because they have no ally England cannot act alone. (Loud cheers.)

The worst of this sensational style of oratory is that its effect is evanescent, and an assembly like the House of Commons has more regard to the subject than the speaker, and is, in the main, more influenced by genuine facts than by special pleading and highly-coloured fiction. Mr. Disraeli's pedantic and pompous oration was peculiarly exposed to the sharp scalpel of so keen and watchful a critic as the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and scarcely had the thundering cheers of the Opposition died away, than Mr. Gladstone began patiently and with his marvellous faculty of impromptu reply, to dissipate the ingenious fabric which the skill of the Conservative assailant of the Government had raised. He began by showing that Mr. Disraeli's quotations from the Blue Book were garbled to serve his special purpose, and that the abortive congress, over which he so greatly mourned, has been characterised by himself as "an adroit manoeuvre." And then he exposed the inconsistency of some of his antagonist's arguments, as in the case of the neutral Powers; showed that England was no more bound than France, Prussia, and Sweden, to uphold by arms the integrity of Denmark, and had done fully as much as either of these Powers to befriend that little State. It was England that was ready to join in armed intervention in favour of Denmark, and was only prevented by the refusal of the other Powers to act. The boldest would have shrunk from meeting that contingency single-handed. What would Mr. Disraeli have done? His motion did not answer to his speech. It ought to overthrow the Government, and instal the Opposition in its place. But looked at in relation to public interests, was "pale and colourless as a ghost"—inspired by "ribald" French journals. The just influence of England could never be "lowered" by "the failure of honest, upright, generous efforts to prevent great masses of mankind from injuring and destroying one another," and by her voice being raised "for moderation and for justice." A resolution of no-confidence would have been the good old English manner of challenging the Government. That issue Mr. Disraeli was afraid to raise. But the proposal of a motion which, while transfixing the Government, pierced the honour of the country, was without precedent, and enabled Mr. Gladstone to "look forward with cheerfulness and comfort to the issue of the debate." It is no slight proof of the Chancellor of the Exchequer's magic eloquence that it detained a full House two hours after the dinner hour.

The duel between these practised and accomplished orators having come to an end, Mr. Newdegate and Mr. Kinglake proposed their respective amendments; the language of the former indicating inability to follow his party into the lobby, on the final division. General Peel, with less art and elaboration, and consequently more effect, followed up Mr. Disraeli's attack, and was replied to by the Lord Advocate. Lord Stanley, who succeeded, took up a position of his own in support of the motion. He could not, as an "independent member," have easily supported a no-confidence resolution, in view of Mr. Gladstone's successful finance, and Lord Palmerston's personal popularity. To have engaged in European war for the sake of the Duchies, would have been an act, "not of impolicy, but of insanity"; but by advising, managing, and directing, England had incurred a moral responsibility towards Denmark, and raised expectations which had prevented an amicable arrangement. The country had been discredited, if not dishonoured, and such a state of things called for a protest on the part of the House of Commons.

Last night the Treasury Bench was silent, and the floor left in possession of outsiders. Mr. Cobden opened with a very felicitous and animated speech, which greatly disappointed the Ministerial side of the House. Lord Stanley spoke to some extent in favour of the Government, but will vote against them. Mr. Cobden condemned the Government, but will give them his vote. The member for Rochdale rose above the party aspects of the question, and condemned

the entire system of intermeddling, protecting, and threatening which characterises our diplomacy. The Opposition cheered, as though they assented to it all—so ready were they to catch at anything which could be turned against the Government. These views were subsequently sustained, though with less elaboration, by Mr. Forster. Lord Robert Cecil was, for a wonder, tame and argumentative. Then came the dinner-hour members, whose eloquence could scarcely be evoked by the spectacle of nearly empty benches. The House, which was crowded when Mr. Cobden spoke, now filled again as Mr. Roebuck's shrill voice broke upon the ear. As though in revenge for being obliged to vote with the Government—the balance inclined, he said, in their favour, though he sat on the Opposition side—the hon. gentleman made a bitter attack upon Earl Russell, whom fortune had made a statesman, though nature intended him for a schoolmaster—the old man of the sea on Lord Palmerston's back, who could not be shaken off. Then followed Mr. Horsman, wittily described by the *Owl* as having become "a Libero-Tory-Whig-Conservative, with Radical fits and independent starts." Before he has uttered many sentences, a burst of derisive cheering marks the disappointment of the Opposition. Mr. Horsman does not see why the Government should be made the scapegoat of a policy which has been pursued for two years, and acquiesced in by their opponents. So with a severe lecture all round, he finally declared that he could not consent that the misfortunes of a nation should be turned into the triumph of a party, or that a Government which had zealously though unsuccessfully laboured to preserve peace, ought to be displaced by an Opposition, which in a prolonged and painful crisis had, in a manner equally unconstitutional and unprecedented, abdicated their highest functions, and stifled the voice of Parliament. The debate was adjourned to Thursday. If votes are affected by speech, it is clear that Ministers have everything to hope from a continuance of the discussion.

We have not space to refer at any length to the other Parliamentary proceedings of the week. The interesting discussion on the Educational Vote, and the exciting scene which took place on the final stage and rejection by a majority of two of the Tests Abolition (Oxford) Bill, are discussed elsewhere. On two occasions the clauses of Mr. Bass's Bill for arming metropolitan householders with adequate powers of protection against the street-organ nuisance, have been keenly canvassed in committee; and although some of its provisions have been modified, the House of Commons has, by large majorities, refused to adopt any fundamental changes in the Bill. The Bill now awaits a third reading, and already, in prospect of its becoming law, some of the superfluous organ-grinders are taking leave of their metropolitan patrons.

On the motion for the second reading of the Indemnity Bill on Friday—a measure intended to relieve the civil servants of the Crown, but not corporate officers, from all penalties incurred by omission to take the requisite oath—Mr. Hadfield proposed to refer it to a Select Committee, with a view to repeal such requirements of the Act "as are useless and no longer required for the present times." On the assurance of Mr. F. Peel on behalf of the Government, and of Mr. S. Estcourt on behalf of the Opposition, that they would support the proposal next Session, Mr. Hadfield wisely consented to withdraw his motion.

On Friday night Earl Grey, in an elaborate and useful speech, called attention to our unsatisfactory relations with Japan, and moved a series of resolutions with the view of promoting a more friendly intercourse between the two countries. Earl Russell's reply was eminently pedantic and unsatisfactory. He objects to begin a new system of policy, especially if it reverses the principles we have always acted on when dealing with Eastern nations—the principle, namely, of interfering with their affairs, riding roughshod over their independent rights, and supporting lawless adventurers in acts of insolent aggression. The Bishop of Oxford eloquently denounced the immorality and impolicy of our Oriental policy, which was one of destruction, not of civilisation; but the House rejected the resolutions by 30 to 11.

FLOWERS.

WHAT is the secret of the universal and well-nigh irresistible attractiveness of flowers to the human family? In what does their special charm consist? We call them beautiful, but then we also call a great variety of other things, not in the least like flowers, beautiful. It is not their colours, nor their form, nor their fragrance, nor their texture, nor all combined, which will account for the fond regard we are wont to display towards them. They do more than gratify

our senses—more, even, than excite our admiration. They have a singular power to elicit affection. We love them with a delicacy and tenderness of love such as is called forth early and late in life by no other objects but infant children. The hard, rugged, coarse-minded man momentarily softens towards them. They get at the heart of the proudest and most reserved. The man of many cares and full of business is soothed, or thinks he is, by the companionship of a choice flower. Women everywhere rejoice in them as darling pets. Little ones of either sex never tire of roaming the meadows in quest of them. They are indispensable on all festal occasions, and at a wedding are almost as necessary as the bride. They carry with them into the sick-room a gleam of gladness, and are sometimes fondly clasped by the wan hand that is already cold with the damp of death. Many things, it is true, are more necessary to us, yet if we were bidden to choose which of God's blessings we would part with for ever, how few of us would elect to bid farewell to flowers!

We frankly confess to the extreme difficulty, and, indeed, so far as ourselves are concerned, the impossibility, of presenting to the reader an analysis, at once accurate and exhaustive, of the spell—for in not a few cases it amounts to that—exercised upon the mind by the floral race. Perhaps, also, the result, even if complete, would not be very highly appreciated—for men do not, in a general way, care much to have their inner nature dissected before their eyes. The subject, however, is one well worth study. There is something peculiar in our love of flowers—something which makes it different from our love of other objects. What is the difference? If we cannot put our pen upon it, we hope our readers will at least agree that it exists. Their faith that God made flowers to please them, and their consciousness that they delight in them, and are thankful for them, may content them. Still, they may be interested, if nothing more, in a cursory glance at the constituent elements of their pleasure.

There is no need to dilate upon the ingredients of it, which are more obvious to the senses—structure, form, colour, perfume. They are far from unimportant, but, as we have already intimated, they do not give that uniqueness which distinguishes our liking—if love should be objected to as too strong a word—for flowers. Beyond all these, there is the close sympathy we feel towards life, in an entirely different mode of manifestation from our own. Life, we say, for unquestionably the absence of it makes all the difference between affection and admiration. Artificial flowers, as a work of art, may gratify, may even surprise us—but it is the art, not the subjects of it, which in such case commends itself to us. The living flower not only affects us more powerfully in degree than the manufactured one, but also in a different way. It excites quite another set of feelings—just as a living man interests us quite differently from a statue or a painting of one. It is as things having life, that flowers charm us. If we have tended them during their growth, so much the better. Better still, if we have made ourselves acquainted with their habits and individualities. Life it is which removes beauty of any sort out of the category of objects to be admired, into that of objects cognisable by the affections. Art may sometimes stand in lieu of nature, so far as the senses only are concerned—but can it farther? It may satisfy our judgment and our tastes—it can only indirectly touch our feelings. We praise art, we commune with nature.

But while the life that is in flowers, so different in its development from our own, and yet in some respects so imitative of it, constitutes the substratum of our liking to them, the extreme frailty of that life infuses into it its peculiar tenderness and sympathy. The sensitive, shrinking, exquisitely delicate little things, O, how easily they are crushed! what seemingly trivial causes make them droop and languish, how quickly they fade, how soon and how utterly they die! Every quality they possess is a meek protest against rough usage—mute but pathetic appeals to us to deal gently with them. For we are apt to love them, "not wisely, but too well," and unless we are very dainty in our modes of caring for and fondling them, their loveliness is ruined, and the spirit of their life is gone. Some, indeed, are hardy to the agencies of the season—snow, rain, wind, sun—but, for the most part, they are too frail for extremes, can bear but little suffering, and underneath the pressure of a heavy grief, quietly pass away. This extraordinary tenderness and fragility, this evanescent tendency of flower life, evokes a corresponding tenderness in our souls. We never feel angry with flowers. If we pick them to pieces it is not because they have provoked us, but because some mighty passion or sorrow has overmastered us, and

we know not what we do. Unquestionably, we think, the speciality of our interest in flowers is due to their extreme sensitiveness and delicacy.

Due mainly, not wholly, to that. We associate with floral life our most vivid ideas of freshness, innocence, and purity. To us, flowers are types of unselfishness. They live to please, not themselves, but others. They modestly, and the greater part of them without a trace of self-consciousness, put forth the beauty that is in them, and offer their sweet incense to the passer-by, be he a beggar or a prince, without stint, without the semblance of an *arrière pensée*, saying as plainly as natural language can express the sentiment, "for your sake we do it." And yet they do not pine for want of notice. They give freely, let who will accept or refuse. They spread abroad their favours without measuring the effect they will produce. There is not a particle of ill-nature in them. In their own sphere they are harmless. And, O, their ineffable purity! How cleanly, how bright, how stainless! God has endowed them with the power of keeping themselves "unspotted from the world" in which they live, and they either do it or die. It is this characteristic which mingles with our sensuous affection for flowers a sort of moral tinge. The purity of the object passes over in some measure to the regard which it elicits, lending to it somewhat of its own nature, and so making it worthy. Then, again, flowers have, in the main, a joyous expression—not passionately so, but staidly, as if happiness were their birthright and they knew it. All this enters into and colours our attachment. We are not ashamed of our affection, for there is nothing in the objects of it fitted to shame us.

Is there not another consideration which serves to deepen in reflective minds the interest with which flowers are regarded—namely, the absolute and visible dependence of their life and of all its manifestations upon the care of the Creator? All creatures, of course, are really dependent upon Divine provision and protection—but the animal tribes seem to be endowed with higher powers of self-preservation and action than the vegetable. Flowers do not even possess the semblance of ability to shift for themselves. They strike one as coming more immediately than most other objects in which there is life under the superintendence of God. They do not, but they have the appearance of it to us. "Behold the lilies of the field—they toil not, neither do they spin—and yet I say unto you that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." We all feel the truth conveyed in these memorable words. The most charming objects in the realm of Nature seem to be the most exclusively dependent on Nature's God. They do nothing for themselves. They provide nothing against their own wants. They take no steps to escape the liabilities to which their frail lives are exposed—and yet how marvellously tended! Helpless they are, but never abandoned. Powerless to order their own well being—and yet how peaceful, how bright, how perfect! It may be said of them, as of the stars, "not one faileth." He who looks after them, puts honour upon them. His work, when most exclusively his, shows least imperfection.

Therefore, being, as they are, cast most completely upon the care of God, they show most distinctly and suggestively the mind of their Maker. They have an evangel for men, and faithfully and eloquently do they proclaim it. See in them what He is to whom they owe their all. See the infinitude of resources lavished upon what may be described as the purely ornamental works of Nature. What an inexhaustible variety of loveliness! What minuteness of care! What refinement of grace! What exquisite finish! What endless combinations, all expressive of beauty, of gentleness, of goodness! Let him who thinks he can so far forget God as to deny His being, or the continuance of His intimate relations and purposes of loving-kindness to this our world, make his experiment in a wilderness of flowers—and every one of them will breathe out a refutation and a rebuke of the blind thanklessness of his spirit. If it be true, as in one sense no doubt it is, that

A thing of beauty is a joy for ever,

what a profusion of the materials of joy has the Creator sown broadcast over the surface of the earth! We welcome the flowers that can tell us so much, and so well, of their Sovereign Lord. They are welcome to us for their own sweet sakes—and thrice welcome for the soothing, cheering, touching message of goodwill and thoughtful care, and gentleness, and purity, which they bring to us from Him.

The number of patients relieved at the Hospital for Diseases of the Heart, 67, Margaret-street, Cavendish-square, were 97 during the week.

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Thursday the Royal assent was given by commission to the following bills: Countess of Elgin and Kincardine's Annuity, Fish Teinds (Scotland), Vacating of Seats, Banking Co-partnerships, Beerhouses (Ireland), Chimney Sweepers Regulation, Chief Rents (Ireland), and to a number of private bills.

Lord RAVENSWORTH expressed his gratification at the removal of the toll-gates in the north of London, and hoped steps would be taken to have them abolished in the other suburban districts. Earl GRANVILLE could not give any information on the latter point at present.

The Marquis of CLANRICARDE moved the second reading of the Oyster Fisheries (England and Wales) Bill, the object of which was to regulate the fisheries so as to prevent their diminution. This was proposed to be done by a system of licenses, without which no one could fish for oysters. After some discussion, the motion was withdrawn.

Lord DONOUGHMORE moved that the power of the Lord Lieutenant of Ireland to remit the whole or a portion of the sentences of prisoners convicted of agrarian outrages should be exercised with greater care and circumspection than in recent cases. He mentioned several cases in support of his motion, and cited the opinion of some of the judges to the same effect. Earl GRANVILLE said the motion was unprecedented, was unfounded in fact, and he hoped it would not be pressed. After a brief discussion the motion was withdrawn.

Earl LEITCHAM moved for papers relating to the breaking of windows in county Limerick, and for returns of prisoners discharged in Ireland before the expiration of their sentence. He denounced Lord Carlisle as a traitor to his Queen and country, who was doing everything he could to render the Government of Ireland impossible to those who were to come after him. Earl GRANVILLE declined to discuss the character of Lord Carlisle. He would give some of the first papers asked for, but not the second. The motion was negatived.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to eight o'clock.

OUR POLICY IN JAPAN.

On Friday, Earl GREY moved an address to her Majesty, praying that such measures may be adopted as may be best calculated to prevent war between this country and Japan, and to foster a friendly intercourse between the two countries. He condemned strongly our past policy in respect to Japan, and contended that no possible good could arise out of a war with that country. He ascribed all the evils that had arisen to the overbearing and lawless behaviour of British subjects, who knew that they had the power of England to support them. He believed the withdrawal or diminution of the force at their command would produce an improvement in their conduct towards the natives. In order to obviate war it was necessary that the treaties should be altered, and be recommended that negotiations should be opened with other nations having treaties with Japan, especially France, in order to determine what changes should be made in those treaties.

Lord RUSSELL denied that the commercial treaty with Japan had been obtained by force, and contended that Lord Grey should have pointed out how our relations with that country might be amended. It was impossible that England could, in dealing with the Japanese, reverse the principles followed in our intercourse with all Oriental nations. English subjects could not be given up to be punished by torture and mutilation under the sanguinary laws of Japan. They must be dealt with by our own tribunals. He admitted that the conduct of many Englishmen in Japan had been very blameable. They often, as in China, behaved insolently to the natives, but he knew of no particular regulations that could prevent these abuses. He could only hope that time, and a sense of the advantages of a friendly intercourse with the people, would produce a better state of things. He then defended the course taken by Sir R. Alcock in exacting from the Prince of Satsuma a compensation for the murder of Mr. Richardson, believing it was more likely to prevent any future war than to provoke it. This country was ready to make any concession the Japanese could reasonably ask for; but it would be better to maintain the rights we had acquired than to begin a new system of policy, especially if it reversed the principles we had always acted on when dealing with Eastern nations.

The Bishop of OXFORD thought the statement of Lord Grey had not been satisfactorily answered. The treaty had certainly been obtained by intimidation, and existed only by the terror the Japanese felt of our arms. The terms of the treaty had been violated by English traders, especially by the exportation of gold, which was prohibited, and the very existence of the Japanese Government was endangered by the policy we were pursuing. England could not wish to reduce Japan to a miserable state of anarchy, yet that must be the result if the Japanese political system were destroyed without creating any substitute. Violations of right and justice were more likely to ruin our commerce than to extend it.

The Duke of SOMERSET defended the conduct of Admiral Kuper and the French Admiral in prohibiting the erection of new batteries in the harbour of Yokohama. The people were quite ready to trade with us, since they continued to send goods to the open ports, though the Daimios threatened them with severe punishment for so doing.

Lord CARNARVON feared the system that had pre-

vailed in China was extending itself to Japan, and would prove mischievous to all concerned with it. It undermined the native authority, and set up nothing in its place. He agreed with the views stated in the resolutions.

Lord GREY having replied,

The House divided, when the resolutions were negatived by a majority of 19, the numbers being:—Contents, 11; non-contents, 30.

Their Lordships adjourned at five minutes to nine o'clock.

On Monday, in reply to Lord Stratford de Redcliffe, Earl RUSSELL said the despatches which had appeared in the *Morning Post* in reference to the alleged Holy Alliance were denied to be genuine by the Prussian Government.

Lord MALMESBURY gave notice that on Friday evening he should move a vote of censure on the Government in reference to their Dano-German policy in terms similar to that moved in the Commons.

Lord CLANCARTY called attention to the recent alterations made by the Board of Education in Ireland in reference to conventual schools. These alterations, he contended, were a violation of the fundamental rules of the system of education. The Bishop of DOWN hoped a commission would be issued to inquire into the subject. After a few words from the Earl of Bandon and the Earl of LEITRIM, Earl GRANVILLE defended the change which had been made, and said it had worked well. The subject then dropped.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE IRISH POOR-LAW.

On Wednesday Mr. HENNESSY moved the second reading of the Poor-law (Ireland) Acts Amendment Bill. The object of the bill was, he said, to assimilate the law in England and Ireland as regarded out-door relief. Lord NAAS moved the rejection of the bill. Its principle had been condemned by the select committee which sat upon the subject. After a short discussion, the second reading of the bill was negatived by 201 votes to 24.

TESTS ABOLITION (OXFORD) BILL.

This bill passed committee without amendment.

Mr. SELWYN said that the absence of opposition to the bill at this stage must not be regarded as any sanction to it from those who shared his views. The third reading of the bill would be opposed, and he hoped due notice of it would be given. (Hear, hear.)

STREET MUSIC (METROPOLIS) BILL.

The House went into committee upon this bill, and a large crop of difficulties and objections sprouted up. Replying to a question, Mr. BASS stated that "Punch" would be exempted from the operation of the act. He regarded it as an institution of the country which ought on no account to be disturbed. (A laugh, and "Hear, hear.") Mr. AYRTON strongly opposed the bill, contending that it was one by which, in order to minister to the sensitive nerves of a few hundred persons, the rest of the three millions of the metropolis were deprived of an amusement which they liked. Was it wise or decent to pass a bill to suppress these performances which their own servants patronised with evident relish? The operation of the bill should be confined by limiting the right of persons to stop street music only in front of, and not "near" their houses, and he moved an amendment accordingly. Sir G. GREY saw no objection to the bill in the shape it had now assumed.

Hitherto the magistrates had differed somewhat in their definition of a "reasonable cause" for the removal of street bands. The bill would enable them to decide that point to the satisfaction of the community at large. People living in a place like London might be seriously annoyed by disagreeable neighbours without any hope of redress, but there was no reason why they should not be protected against avoidable inconveniences.

Mr. BASS denied that the bill was supported only by a few individuals of peculiar idiosyncrasies.

He had received representations on the subject from thousands of persons, including some of the first men in the kingdom, all expressing the hope that the bill might be passed into law. Among the correspondents were gentlemen who took a great interest in the welfare of the poor; and it was incorrect, therefore, to say that the bill was opposed by the working classes and their friends. Mr. Charles Dickens was in favour of the bill, and he had letters from the Poet Laureate, Mr. Carlyle, all the leading artists, and 300 or 400 of the first musicians of the day, who declared that the interruption caused by street bands rendered it quite impossible to carry on their profession.

After some further discussion, Mr. Ayrton's amendment was rejected by 201 to 87.

Mr. C. BENTINCK moved to insert words giving discretion to the magistrate before whom a street musician shall be convicted, to order that the party so convicted be imprisoned for any time not exceeding three days. Mr. R. W. CRAWFORD asked whether the hon. member did not intend to make some provision for the organ-grinder's monkey when his master went to gaol? (A laugh.) Mr. C. BENTINCK thought the monkey should be provided for at the expense of the metropolitan members. (Loud laughter.) Sir G. GREY said the amendment gave very little additional power beyond what already existed. Carried by 121 to 111.

Mr. AYRTON moved that the provision that a street musician not moving on when warned should be taken into custody without a warrant should be omitted. After some discussion, Mr. BUTT, not succeeding in obtaining a hearing, moved that the

chairman report progress, which was rejected by 176 to 56. Mr. Ayrton's amendment was lost by 151 to 68.

Sir G. GREY now proposed the insertion of the words, "within the view of such constable." Mr. C. BENTINCK opposed the amendment. The ATTORNEY-GENERAL said unless the words were inserted, the constable would be called upon to act upon the mere allegation of the householder, which would be totally unprecedented. The amendment was rejected by 118 to 83.

It being now a quarter to six, when, by order of the House, only unopposed business can be proceeded with, the chairman left the chair.

The Gaols Bill went through committee *pro forma*.

The House adjourned at six o'clock.

THE LADIES' GALLERY.

On Thursday, Sir GEORGE BOWYER asked whether for the purpose of providing for the due ventilation and comfort of the Ladies' Gallery, directions would be given for the removal of the grating in front of it.

Mr. COWPER said all that was possible had been done for the comfort of the ladies, and he regretted that the arrangements appeared to the hon. member of so conventual a character. (Laughter.) He must decline to open the grating, for he believed influence which was undesirable might be the result. The ladies could see and hear, although they could not be seen and heard.

Sir G. BOWYER: Is the right hon. gentleman aware that in the House of Lords ladies sit in an open gallery without any grating at all? And is this House likely to be influenced by the ladies, when they do no harm in the House of Lords? ("Hear, hear," and laughter.)

No answer was given to these questions.

EDUCATIONAL ENDOWMENTS.

On the motion for going into committee of supply, Sir J. PAKINGTON rose to propose a motion condemnatory of the educational minute of March 11, 1864. He said, however, that he understood it was regarded as being substantially the same as the motion of Mr. Alderley, which had already been decided upon this session, and that, therefore, he could not now propose it. The SPEAKER ruled that the motion was substantially the same as that of Mr. Alderley, and that, therefore, it could not be put. Sir J. PAKINGTON gave notice that he would bring the matter forward again next session.

SCHOOL OF NAVAL ARCHITECTURE AT SOUTH KENSINGTON.

Mr. AUGUSTUS SMITH moved a resolution condemnatory of this proposed school. He contended that the school ought to be at Portsmouth, and not at South Kensington. Sir J. PAKINGTON and Lord C. PAGET defended the school, and the motion was withdrawn.

DISTRESS IN COVENTRY.

Mr. TREHERNE called attention to the injury which he said the staple trades of Coventry were suffering from the operation of the commercial treaty with France, and asked the Government whether they would use their influence with the French Government to obtain the same free admission into France of English ribbons and watches as is accorded by that treaty, on the principle of free trade, to French manufactures of a similar description in England. He contended that the effects of the French treaty had been most disastrous to Coventry. Sir J. PAXTON followed in the same strain, and urged that something should be done by the Government. Mr. M. GIBSON deplored the distress which existed in Coventry, and said if any representation which could be made would have a tendency to relieve that distress, he should be glad to support it. He was afraid, however, that not much could be done in the direction indicated. After a few words from Mr. NEWDEGATE, the matter dropped.

THE EDUCATION GRANT.

In committee of supply, Mr. BRUCE moved the estimate for public education in Great Britain, stating it to be 705,404*l.* for the coming year. The estimate of last year was 804,000*l.*, while the expenditure was only 721,000*l.*, the amount per head for scholars being only 8*s.* 3*d.* instead of 10*s.*, and the cost for next year was estimated at 9*s.* 2*d.* a head. The number of scholars on the books in 1863 was 1,092,741, as compared with 1,057,426 in 1862, being an increase of 35,315. The school accommodation now provided, was adequate to the reception of 1,512,000 children, which was about the actual amount of attendance. The number of assisted schools had increased to over 7,000. All but 53 of the 618 parishes which contain the great bulk of the population of England and Wales were provided with schools. The number of pupil-teachers was 14,180, and of certificated teachers 10,136. The grants for building, enlarging, or improving the fabrics of elementary schools amounted to 36,681*l.*; the sum voluntarily subscribed, 128,129*l.*; the number of schools built was 125, enlarged or improved 50, teachers' residences built, 82, and the number of children for whom additional accommodation had been provided was 27,093. The number of elementary day-schools visited by the inspectors in 1863 was 7,739, and schoolrooms under separate teachers, 11,230, and they found present 1,092,741 children, as compared with 1,057,426 in 1862. Referring to the causes of the decrease in the ratio of education in late years, the right hon. gentleman argued that it was owing mainly to religious differences, and the difficulty of adjusting the question of religious instruction. The number of children presented for examination under the Revised Code was 180,005, out of 280,475 in the schools to which they belonged. Having elaborately

stated the working of the system of standards of examination and their results, the right hon. gentleman argued in favour of the system.

Lord R. CECIL stated that the real cause of the existing lull in the progress of education was owing to the distrust of the managers of schools in the Government department, and he pressed this argument in detail, contending that the examination test of the Revised Code was unfair, and worked evil to the system of education.

He believed that those who worked the educational system at Whitehall would be very glad if some amalgamated system of religious teaching could be discovered, that denominational systems could be avoided, and all difficulties shelved. It was those efforts that the National Society had resisted. Their feeling was that they could have no religious zeal unless it were based on a religious system, and that earnest religious zeal furnished the whole marrow and strength of the educational movement of this country. He thought it would be wiser for the officials to abstain from trying to induce religious men to abandon those doctrines and those formularies which they felt to be an essential portion of their faith, and not to attempt to induce them to teach some more diluted form of religion. The Committee of Council held out a direct premium to the managers of schools to teach them religion in some form to which Dissenters should not object, and it was that which was resisted by so many earnest members of the Church of England.

Mr. WALTER thought the distribution of the grant was unsatisfactory, and deserved the serious consideration of the House. Should he and his right hon. friend be in their places next session, he should move for a select committee on the subject. There were no less than 10,961 parishes, or about 66 per cent. of the whole, without annual-grant schools. He did not think that that could be regarded as a satisfactory state of things. He believed that there was a great number of small parishes in which the duty of popular education was substantially fulfilled, but which, being unable or unwilling to comply with the regulations of the Privy Council, were deprived of any assistance from the public funds. It was thrown in his teeth, he supposed at the instigation of the Privy Council, that he was anxious to obtain grants for schools that were unworthy of them; and the inspectors had industriously raked together a great many instances in which schools were kept by drunks, and by persons with one arm or one leg. But what he (Mr. Walter) desired was simply a fair application of the Privy Council's own doctrine of payment for results. The new mode of conducting the examinations was far less efficient than the old one. It was a dull, dry, formal routine, and far less calculated to bring out what the children really knew. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. ADDERLEY said he had himself supported the Revised Code, and had never foreseen the disadvantage which some had anticipated would flow from its adoption; but he had not expected that, so early as 1863, all the inspectors—as far as he had seen—in their reports, should express such strong approval of that measure. With the cordial co-operation of the inspectors, additional vigour would be imparted to local management, and the result would be a useful control over the expenditure of public money.

Mr. HADFIELD said a question arose, what was the cause of the apathy observable on a question of such great importance? During the last hour the benches opposite had been occupied by only three members, and only twenty-five members were present, although the question under consideration involved altogether an expenditure of 1,300,000*l.* He believed this apathy was owing to the deadening effect which the granting of money by the State for such purposes invariably produced, and was of opinion that it would be much better if the State would leave education alone.

Sir S. NORTHCOTE said the theory of the hon. and learned gentleman was opposed to the fact, as the vote for education was considerably less than the amount in former years.

This year the sum proposed was 705,000*l.*, against a vote of 804,000*l.* last year, and a vote of 840,000*l.* the year before, showing a decrease in the last two years of 16 per cent. But it was not a little remarkable that while the sum voted was 16 per cent. less, the amount for the expense of administration was 17 per cent. greater, the charge under this head the year before last being 66,299*l.*, last year 72,000*l.*, and this year 77,800*l.* This fact might afford some clue to the difficulty propounded by the hon. member. The hon. member wished to know why less interest was excited than formerly. It was because the House had found itself unable to deal with such matters; because it was more and more at the mercy of the department which administered the grants, being unable to acquaint itself with all the complicated details of the system; and because, when it had expressed its views and endeavoured to enforce them, it had found that it was liable to see those views quietly set aside and its wishes ignored, without being able to make any effectual resistance.

Mr. BLACK attacked the denominational system, and wished to see schools in which the Bible was taught, but without definite creeds. He also arraigned the present system for inequality in the distribution of grants among the denominations.

Sir JOHN PAKINGTON considered that the Government system could never work to the satisfaction of the people unless they called in local aid to their assistance, and thus obtained the general views of the country, and acted upon these suggestions. In regard to the conscience clause, he sided with the Committee of Council against the National Society.

Lord H. VANE concurred in regretting that the National Society were not inclined to relax their rules.

Sir G. BOWYER said that the idea of the hon. member for Edinburgh that there might be a religious education, without creeds or anything denomina-

tional in its character was impossible of realisation. Religion entirely freed from denominationalism would sink into mere Deism.

Mr. LOWE contended that the denominational system was a necessary compromise. Many admonitions had been addressed to his right hon. friend the Vice-President.

He would not, however, presume to admonish him from his side, because he was sure it was not necessary to tell him that though it was his duty to conciliate the managers in all fitting ways, he had also a duty to discharge towards the taxpayers—(Hear, hear)—and unless a man in his position kept a strong, firm hand on the expenditure, unless he was prepared to brave some degree of public obloquy and expose himself to much trouble and vexation, he could not fill the office with honour to himself or benefit to his country. (Hear, hear.) . . . The education vote amounted, in 1861, to 840,000*l.* It was going on at the rate of nearly 100,000*l.* a-year, and but for the most obnoxious regulations which were introduced by the enemies of the human race—a laugh—who presided over the department, it might at the present moment have reached 1,200,000*l.*, instead of 700,000*l.*—(Hear, hear)—and have swallowed up that penny in the Income-tax which everybody was so glad to see taken off. (Hear, hear.) When, he might add, the administrators of the department were charged with being prim, and precise, and harsh, and with having very little feeling for the unfortunate persons whose receipts might be cut down, it ought to be borne in mind that they were exercising a great public trust, and that while, on the one hand, the education given did not suffer in point of efficiency since the changes which were so much complained of had been introduced, on the other hand, a stand had been made on behalf of the taxpayer, and those demands resisted which would infallibly have broken down the whole system, which, had he contended, got a new chance of life by the alterations in question. (Hear, hear.)

In the course of further debate, Mr. LYON regretted to find that the National Society was subjected to a coercion and pressure to which no other body in the country undertaking the work of education was subjected. Mr. PUGH dwelt on the case of South Wales. Ultimately the vote was agreed to.

SCIENCE AND ART.

On the vote of 97,582*l.* for the Science and Art Department, Mr. GREGORY passed a variety of criticisms on affairs at South Kensington. Mr. BRUCE made a brief explanatory statement.

Sir G. BOWYER said that in the South Kensington Museum there were some very beautiful specimens of Italian art, and he should like to know how they came there, because when he went to the Museum he was always reminded very much of the shop of a receiver of stolen goods. (Laughter.) He was very much afraid that a great many of the beautiful specimens of Italian art were the fruits of the policy of the noble Viscount opposite with regard to Italy. (Laughter.)

Mr. A. SMITH complained of the increase of the vote, which he said had more than doubled during the last ten years. There ought to be some stand made against this increased expenditure. He would take the increase of this year, 15,000*l.*, and move that the vote be reduced by 15,000*l.*

Mr. MAQUIRE denied in the most emphatic manner that the Museum at Kensington was of no practical advantage to the country.

Mr. AYRTON observed he had thought the great business of the Department of Science and Art at Kensington had been to pick up curiosities, but latterly they appeared to have taken a literary turn, and had composed a drama called "Mumbo Jumbo, or the Mountains of the Moon in the Gaboon"—(loud laughter)—which contained some of the greatest nonsense any man could conceive, and which had been performed at the Botanical Gardens before the heads of the department. He asked if the public servants were compelled to take part in such folly as this.

Mr. BRUCE said he was unable to gratify the curiosity of his hon. friend. He was quite unaware of this performance. All he could say was that it was not with his sanction, and that the sum which the committee was called upon to vote this evening was devoted to quite another purpose.

The vote was eventually carried by 131 to 73, after which progress was reported.

PENAL SERVITUDE BILL.

The Lords' Amendments to the Penal Servitude Acts (Amendment Bill) were considered, and after some conversation, a division took place on the alteration made by the Upper House, dispensing with the necessity of male licence-holders reporting themselves monthly to the police. The numbers were—Ayes, 129; noes, 84. It was thus determined that the clause should stand as it did originally in the House of Commons.

The other orders of the day were disposed of, and the House adjourned at a quarter past two o'clock.

THE HUDSON'S BAY COMPANY.

On Friday, on the order of the day for going into committee of supply, Mr. A. MILLS called attention to the present condition of the territories claimed by the Hudson's Bay Company, and moved an address for copies of all correspondence which had taken place between the Imperial and Canadian Governments respecting the western boundaries of Canada, and of any memorials forwarded to the Colonial Office from the inhabitants of the Red River territory. The hon. gentleman contended that a vast and fertile district was at present unoccupied, owing to the alleged rights of the Hudson's Bay Company, and as Canada had expressed a desire to open up communication with it, it was desirable that encouragement should be given to her to absorb it. Mr. WATKIN denied that the Canadians were willing to undertake the responsibility of colonising a vast

territory four times as large as England. To allow the Canadians to accept such a trust, would be in the last degree objectionable. Mr. CARDWELL explained that the obstacles in the way of the settlement of the question were really raised by Canada, that colony being desirous that the remainder of the charter of the Hudson's Bay Company should form part of the terms on which the territory should be dealt with. He had laid down as a principle that provision should be made for the cost and good ordering of the proposed colony. He had offered to Canada the refusal of the colonisation of the territory, and it remained to be seen whether it would become necessary to place the duty on the Imperial Government. The motion was then withdrawn.

IRISH LUNATIC ASYLUMS.

Mr. BLAKE called attention to the necessity which exists for amending the laws relating to the administration of lunatic asylums in Ireland, and for making better provision for the care of imbeciles confined in the union workhouses. He asked if the Chief Secretary for Ireland would introduce a bill next session to remedy the defects complained of. Sir R. PEEL expressed a strong opinion that there was no necessity for further legislation upon the subject. After a short conversation, the subject dropped.

THE INNS OF COURT.

Mr. GRANT DUFF called attention to the report of the Commission on the Inns of Court, and moved for the papers on the subject. He urged the necessity of providing a compulsory examination before a candidate was admitted to the bar. The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said the question of examination was one which might be properly entrusted to the Inns of Court. The motion was withdrawn.

THE DANISH CHARGE AGAINST EARL RUSSELL.

Lord BURGHLEY inquired of the First Lord of the Treasury whether he could explain Bishop Monrad's statement respecting England made in the Lower House of the Rigsraad.

Lord PALMERSTON said there was no inconsistency between the statement of Earl Russell and the course which had been adopted by her Majesty's Government.

His noble friend did not say that he would not make a proposal, but that if the Danes would agree to the line of the Schlei and the Dannewerke, he would not himself propose or support any other line, if proposed by the German plenipotentiaries, and to that engagement he adhered; but when, at last, he found that the Danes would not consent to a line north of the Schlei, nor the Germans consent to a line south of the Apenrade, it became necessary to take another course, and the proposal of arbitration was made in conjunction with the other neutral Powers. His noble friend stated the other day that henceforward no trust could be reposed in the German Powers, and it had been interpreted in a manner in which it was not intended. His noble friend did not mean to say that any assertion or declaration of the German Powers was not trustworthy because it was not made truthfully, but his meaning was, as the context showed, that the German Powers having on more than one occasion been driven from their original intention by a pressure which they were unable to resist, he could not, therefore, insure that any intention, however sincerely stated at the time, was such as the German Powers would be able to carry into effect. His lordship added that he and the Foreign Secretary were sorry if pain had been given to parties for whom they entertained the highest respect, by the remarks which had fallen from his noble friend.

The House then went into committee of supply, and several votes were agreed to. During the proceedings the House was counted, but several members coming in, the required forty members was obtained.

THE THAMES EMBANKMENT.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER moved a resolution whereon to found a bill authorising the Treasury to guarantee the repayment of money borrowed under the Thames Embankment and Metropolis Improvements Acts, and to make advances for the objects of those bills out of the Consolidated Fund; and authorising the Commissioners for the Reduction of the National Debt to advance the money required to be raised for those purposes by the Metropolitan Board of Works. The resolutions were agreed to.

The Factory Acts Extension Bill was read a third time and passed.

INDEMNITY BILL.

Upon the motion for the second reading of this bill,

Mr. HADFIELD said he had an amendment to propose. The bill itself, which, contrary to usual practice, had been circulated among members, was a perfect curiosity. It recited no less than twelve Acts of Parliament, most, if not all, of which, he believed, had been repealed by subsequent acts of Parliament. Among them was the 25th of Charles II., which required an oath against Transubstantiation. (Laughter.) Another required a declaration that the signer would upon no pretence take up arms against the King; and yet in 1688 all classes took up arms to get rid of a tyrant. (Hear.) There was a declaration against the oath called the Solemn League, and an act of the 30th of Charles II. disabled Papists from sitting in either House of Parliament. (A laugh.) Another act extorted an oath not to injure the Church. He moved the amendment of which he had given notice,—

That, considering the long period during which yearly Indemnity Bills have passed, on account of the non-compliance with the requirements of the Acts of Parliament made and passed in times of political excitement and trouble (some of them 200 years ago), imposing oaths and declarations, as stated

in this bill, a select committee be appointed to consider and report, first of all, whether a complete and effectual indemnity can be given by Parliament for all omissions to the present time; and, in the next place, whether the time has not arrived to repeal so many of the said requirements as are useless and no longer required for the present times.

Mr. F. PEEL observed that, whatever other objections there might be to oaths and declarations, there was nothing obsolete in the present declarations themselves. In 1858 an act was passed substituting a simple short oath for the old oaths and declarations, but the hon. gentleman was mistaken in supposing that because the old oaths and declarations were repealed therefore the original acts which enacted them were also repealed; on the contrary, the old acts were read as if they contained a new oath. He very much agreed with the hon. gentleman as to the general object he had in view, but he did not see why he should think it necessary to propose an amendment to this bill, which travelled very much in the same direction in which the hon. gentleman desired to go, only this bill did bit by bit what the hon. gentleman wished to do once for all. If, instead of bringing in his usual bill on this subject, which he (Mr. Peel) had more than once supported, the hon. gentleman would move next session to refer the matter to a select committee, there would be no objection; but the effect of referring this bill to a committee would be altogether to prevent it passing during the present session.

Mr. S. ESTCOURT said that if the hon. gentleman moved for a select committee on the subject next session he would give him his support. (Hear, hear.)

The amendment was then withdrawn, and the bill read a second time.

TESTS ABOLITION (OXFORD) BILL.

On the order for the third reading of the Tests Abolition (Oxford) Bill,

Sir W. HEATHCOTE, in moving to defer the third reading for three months, said he should not discuss the merits of the bill or its probable results; all he desired to do was to call attention to the position of the House with reference to the bill, divided as its supporters were into three distinct sections entertaining different views, some members supporting the measure upon the understanding that it would receive amendments which had not been proposed. He would ask the House to remember, as a matter of fact, that the bill did not now stand in such a form as would put Oxford in any way in the same position as Cambridge. (Hear, hear.) It would put Oxford in a situation very much in advance, as his hon. friend (Mr. Dodson) would call it—(Hear, hear),—but, as he thought, in a very much worse position—(Hear, hear); and hon. members who would support the third reading would do so on the distinct understanding that they were doing what had not yet been sanctioned for the other University. On those grounds, he begged to move that the bill be read a third time that day three months. (Hear, hear.)

The House divided, and the numbers were,—
For the amendment ... 140
Against it ... 150
Majority ... —10

The amendment was accordingly rejected, and the question was again put, that the bill be now read a third time.

Lord R. CECIL complained of the conduct of her Majesty's Ministers, who had, he said, distinctly given the House to understand that they would support certain amendments in the committee, where, however, none of those amendments had been proposed which the Government had foreshadowed.

The Government gave the House distinctly to understand that they intended to support in committee amendments which would make the bill such as they desired, and that they gave no support or countenance to the chief provision of the bill, which handed over the government of the University for educational purposes to Dissenting Masters of Arts. In the committee, however, none of the amendments which the Government had foreshadowed were proposed. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. member for the University was absent on that occasion. (The Chancellor of the Exchequer intimated dissent.) He begged the right hon. gentleman's pardon for attempting to construe for him somewhat of an extenuation. (Cries of "Divide!" and cheers.) He assured hon. gentlemen that they should not decide this question by a "snatch" division. ("Oh, oh!") Surely the handing over an ancient University of the country—"Oh, oh!" and cheers)—was a subject on which the House of Commons might be excused for deliberating before they came to a division. This was a measure such as never passed the House of Commons before, and absolutely handed over the government of the University to those not of the Church of England. Some hon. members might think that desirable, but, at all events, it was not a matter to be despatched in a ten minutes' debate. (Loud cries of "Divide!" and cheers.) What he wanted to turn their attention to was the conduct of the right hon. gentleman, the Home Secretary, who, having given the House to understand on the second reading that certain amendments should be moved, and having abstained from moving amendments in committee, yet on the third reading, when a division was called for, walked out of the House without giving an opinion one way or another on this important bill, which fell especially within the consideration of his

department. (Cheers.) He did not think that a bill of this character should pass the House of Commons without some explanation being given by the responsible Minister of the Crown. It was hardly dealing fairly by the House of Commons to hold out opinions such as the right hon. gentleman did on the second reading, and then to follow them up by such conduct as had been exhibited. (Opposition cheers.) A course of proceeding like that at all events gave the House a good idea of what a "discriminating resistance" meant. (Cries of "Oh!") "Discriminating" resistance meant promising to oppose a bill when no great party struggle was in prospect, and not opposing it when a party vote was expected. (Cheers.) "Discriminating" resistance, in fact, was discrimination in point of time. It was resistance when it suited you. At all events, some gratitude was due to those, whoever they were, who enriched our native language. "Betray" and "run away" were coarse and vulgar terms; now we spoke of a "discriminating resistance." (Cheers and laughter.) He hoped, however, that the House would not have many specimens of this "discriminating resistance." ("Divide, divide!") They should soon have a discussion upon a foreign policy, in which "discriminating resistance" had prevailed to a great extent. ("Question, question!") Surely it was the question to show how perfectly consistent was the home and foreign policy of the Government. (Hear, hear.) In both cases they promised help when it was convenient, and when it ceased to be convenient to give it they walked out of the House. (Cheers, and cries of "Divide, divide!") He saw that hon. gentlemen were not inclined for discussion. (Cheers.) They preferred that inarticulate mode of argument, which did not draw so much upon the intellectual faculties. He only rose to draw attention to the conduct of one of the chief members of her Majesty's Government, and he trusted that before the House divided upon this important question, they should have from the right hon. gentleman a full explanation. (Cheers.)

Sir GEORGE GREY said he had on a previous discussion spoken only his individual opinions. He did his best to induce Mr. Dodson to modify the bill, and had he succeeded, the measure would probably have passed.

Not objecting to the principle of the bill, I did not feel myself bound to vote against it on the third reading. I should willingly have seen the bill introduced in another shape, but I never promised to oppose it; I never promised to introduce amendments; I did not wish to press those amendments against the judgment of my hon. friend: and I thought that I was only taking a course which became me in not recording a vote either against or in favour of the bill, but in walking out of the House when the question was put. (Hear, hear.) The noble lord says that this is not a fitting question to be disposed of in ten minutes. Why did not the noble lord, who was here when the amendment was moved by the hon. baronet the member for the University of Oxford, rise in his place, and state the ground upon which he was opposed to the third reading of the bill? (Cheers.) Now that the amendment has been negatived, he is taking a most unusual course in order to get the advantage of the votes of any hon. members who may happen to come down to the House. (Cheers.)

Lord JOHN MANNERS complained that up to the present time the House had not been favoured with the opinions of her Majesty's Government on this bill.

But who, let me ask, is the member of her Majesty's Government who speaks to the House upon this subject merely in his individual capacity? It is the Home Secretary. And in whose department, I should like to know, are questions affecting the Universities of this land, if not in that of the Home Secretary? (Cheers.) If the right hon. gentleman tell us, as I conclude he means to tell us, that her Majesty's Government have really no opinion as a Government upon this important bill—(loud cheers)—I am perfectly willing to believe the statement, and I shall not go through the useless form of expressing at it a surprise which I do not feel. But I hope it will go forth to the country that upon a measure affecting one of the most ancient and venerable Universities of the land her Majesty's Government express no opinion, have no opinion, and so far as the department charged with the affairs of the Universities is concerned, do not even give a vote upon this great measure. (Renewed cheering.)

Sir W. M. FARQUHAR (who was received with and frequently interrupted by cries of "Oh, oh," and "Divide"), also denounced the conduct of the Government, and especially the silence of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Mr. NEATE rose to address the House, but so loud were the cries of "Divide!" and other noises, that they completely drowned his voice, and prevented a single sentence which he uttered from reaching the gallery. After a short time spent in vainly endeavouring to obtain a hearing, the hon. gentleman resumed his seat.

Mr. COLLINS (who on rising was received with loud cries of "Oh, oh," and "Divide," "Divide"), proceeded to contend that the bill was one of a very important character, and one which ought not to be passed without being adequately discussed. He should have no objection to see halls opened at Oxford in which Nonconformists might receive instruction, but that was an entirely different question from that raised by the bill. He, for one, felt it to be his duty to offer the most decided opposition to the third reading. ("Divide," "Divide.")

The House then divided, when the numbers were,—
For the third reading ... 170
Against ... 170

Before the tellers arrived there was a burst of cheering from the Opposition on intelligence being received that the votes were equal. When it was seen that Mr. Dodson and Mr. Goschen advanced on the right of the other tellers there were counter cheers from the Liberal side, and the announcement of the tie was received with more cheers from the opponents of the bill.

The SPEAKER having read the numbers, said: After the course of voting which has occurred to-

night, hon. members will not, I think, be surprised that I should desire to give the House an opportunity of deciding for itself by another vote on the question that this bill do pass. (Hear, hear.) In order to do that, I give my vote with the ayes. (Cheers from the Liberal side.)

The House divided, when the numbers were:—

Ayes ... 171
Noes ... 173
Majority ... —2

The bill was consequently lost.

The scene at the bringing up the announcement of the numbers was extremely animated. The instant it became known that there was a majority for the "noes," the opponents of the bill displayed considerable excitement; and when the clerk at the table handed the paper to Sir W. Heathcote, one of the tellers "against," loud and repeated bursts of cheering were raised, among which the hon. baronet several times endeavoured in vain to announce to the Speaker the result of the division. When at length he succeeded in doing so, the cheering was recommenced, and continued until the House had gone into committee on the next order.

STREET MUSIC.

The House went into committee again upon the Street Music (Metropolis) Bill. Mr. AYRTON moved to add to clause 1 a proviso that the musician shall be truly informed by the person making the charge of the circumstances under which he is required to depart. This amendment was negatived, upon a division, by 98 to 67.

Mr. AYRTON moved the addition of the words, "Provided he shall be given into custody by the person making the charge." Agreed to.

Sir G. GREY moved a proviso, that the person making the charge shall accompany the constable who shall take into custody any person offending to the nearest police-stationhouse and sign the charge-sheet, which was agreed to.

A new clause, moved by Sir G. GREY, as to the treatment of a charge brought to the police-court when it was shut, was likewise agreed to.

Sir G. GREY, in answer to questions from Mr. Hunt, said that the police at present were empowered to disperse any band creating an obstruction in the public thoroughfare.

Mr. HANKEY moved a proviso,—

That nothing in this act contained shall extend or apply to a dramatic representation usually performed in the streets of the metropolis, and generally known as the show of Punch and Judy, nor to any person representing any of the characters in such show, nor to any music performed or played in connexion with such show, in the same manner as has been usual before the passing of this act; but such dramatic representation, show, and music may continue to be played as heretofore, before the passing of this act.

Sir G. GREY did not think the representation of Punch and Judy would come under the bill unless accompanied by music. He thought the clause would make the bill absurd. (Hear, hear.)

The preamble was then agreed to, and the bill, as amended, was ordered to be reported to the House.

The remaining orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at half-past two o'clock.

THE VOTE OF CENSURE.

On Monday there was an extraordinary assemblage both of members and of strangers. Soon after four o'clock every seat in the Speaker's and the strangers' galleries was occupied, and a very short time elapsed before a considerable number of peers, as well as of foreigners, appeared in the gallery over the clock. There were also several peers on the benches below the bar.—

As Mr. Disraeli presented himself to speak, which he did about a quarter to five, the House presented an extraordinary spectacle, resembling in its crowded state and in the prevailing excitement more the eve of a division after some great party struggle than the commencement of a debate. In the body of the House every available seat was occupied, and the members who had arrived late crowded the side galleries or stood in groups below the bar. His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge, Earl Grey, Lord Llanover, Earl Powis, Lord Houghton, and Mr. Justice Shee sat in the part of the House immediately over the clock assigned to distinguished strangers, and in the seats below the bar on either side of the entrance were Earl Russell, the Poet Tennyson, the Duke of Argyll, the Bishop of Oxford, and many other persons of note. Both the Speaker's and Strangers' galleries were crowded during the night, and scores who had orders for the one or the other waited in the adjoining lobbies in the hope of being admitted.

Lord PALMERSTON, who was received with loud cheers from the Ministerial side of the House, stated that he had received a letter from the Prussian ambassador declaring that the correspondence which had appeared in the morning papers was, as far as his Government was concerned, altogether an invention.

Mr. DISRAELI, who had been warmly received by the Opposition members on entering the House, then rose to move the following resolution:—

That an humble address be presented to her Majesty to thank her Majesty for directing the correspondence on Denmark and Germany and the protocols of the Conference recently held in London to be laid before Parliament; to assure her Majesty that we have heard with deep concern that the sittings of the Conference have been brought to a close without accomplishing the important purposes for which it was convened; and to express to her Majesty our great regret that while the

course pursued by her Majesty's Government has failed to maintain their avowed policy of upholding the integrity and independence of Denmark, it has lowered the just influence of this country in the councils of Europe, and thereby diminished the securities for peace. He said that nearly all the great wars of Europe had been wars of succession, and unfortunately the war now going on between Denmark and Germany came under this category. The efforts of the great Powers to avoid this result by the celebrated Treaty of 1852 had proved abortive. That treaty was one which well deserved the respect of all the Powers. It was simple in terms, its objects were singularly unselfish and ambitious, and the settlement effected by it had been recognised by all the Powers of Europe. Under that treaty England incurred no legal responsibility or engagements other than those incurred by France, while he considered the moral obligations of France towards Denmark were of no ordinary character. To France Denmark had proved herself a most faithful and devoted ally, and at St. Helena, the great Napoleon, reviewing his marvellous career, bore testimony to the fidelity of Saxony and Denmark, while on the other hand, England had found Denmark a gallant and formidable foe. It might be asked, why was the relation of France to Denmark now so singularly free from embarrassment, and ours so full of terrible complications? The answer was that the affairs of this country must have been very much mismanaged. (Hear, hear.) After glancing at the transactions which immediately preceded the treaty and to the controversy which grew up subsequently between the King of Denmark and the Diet of Germany, he considered the course taken by the British Government of that day, remarking that the other Powers of Europe did not interfere in that controversy. The correspondence which had encouraged the spirit and views of the German party ended in the celebrated despatch of the autumn of 1862. He referred to the oft-quoted speech of Lord Palmerston on the 23rd of July, 1862, on the subject of the difference between Denmark and the German Powers, and on the policy of the British Government upon this question, which contained the words that (under certain circumstances) "it would not be with Denmark alone they would have to contend"; and he showed by extracts from Lord Russell's despatches that those words expressed the real policy of the Government,—a policy which, in his opinion, was wise and judicious at that time, for Lord Palmerston knew that France was ready to co-operate with England, and had even spontaneously offered to act with us. Adverting, then, to the Polish insurrection, and the decision which had been come to by past administrations upon the question of Poland to abstain from interference, he observed that Earl Russell had announced a different policy, to the astonishment of the Emperor of the French, calling the attention of the Emperor of Russia to the six propositions, in peremptory terms. The House knew the end of all this, and the difficulty in which it placed the Emperor of the French. He was, therefore, not surprised at the change it produced in our relations with France. After this change, however, the policy of the British Government did not alter up to the end of September. In November two great events occurred which immensely affected the aspect of the relations between Denmark and Germany. The Emperor of the French, desirous to maintain a cordial understanding with this country, proposed a European Congress. Whatever opinion might be entertained as to the expediency of a Congress, there could not be two opinions as to the mode and manner in which the proposal was met, by a most offensive reply. The other event was the death of the King of Denmark; but neither of these events altered the policy of her Majesty's Government, as he showed from Lord Russell's despatches. It was open to them, he observed, to have adopted, after the death of the King of Denmark, the same course as other neutral Powers; and, if they had adopted that of France, it would have been intelligible and honourable. If they stood up for the balance of power they might have taken the management of the affairs of Denmark. But they had pursued a course unexampled in the history of this country. Notwithstanding the repeated menaces in the despatches, the Federal execution took place, as it was intended to take place; and what was the course of her Majesty's Government? He answered this question by reading extracts from the despatches—sometimes in a whining tone—contrasting the mild terms of the later with the menacing spirit of the earlier despatches. Mr. Disraeli then reverted to the history of the Dano-German dispute in connexion with the conduct of England towards Denmark, reading copious extracts from the despatches, which were cheered alternately by each side of the House, as certain passages tended to support or weaken his argument. In bringing the narrative of events to a close, he gave a short summary of the results of the Conference—that barren failure. It had simply wasted six weeks. It lasted as long as a carnival, and, like a carnival, it ended in masks and mystification. (Laughter.) At that Conference her Majesty's Government had made two considerable propositions—one, the dismemberment of Denmark—so much for its integrity; second, that Denmark should be placed under the joint guarantee of the Great Powers, which would be a fertile source of war—so much for its independence. By the policy of the Government these results had accrued:—The first was that the avowed policy of her Majesty's Government had failed. The second was that our just influence in the councils of Europe had been lowered. Thirdly, in consequence of our just influence in the councils of Europe being lowered, the securities for peace were diminished. (Cheers.)

He thus defined the legitimate position of England in Europe:—

The position of England in the councils of Europe is essentially that of a moderating and mediatorial Power. Her interest and her policy is, when changes are inevitable and necessary, to assist so that these changes, if possible, may be accomplished without war; or, if war occurs, that its duration and its asperity may be lessened. (Hear, hear.)

That was what he meant by the influence of England, which, if not forfeited, had been lowered.

Within twelve months we have been twice repulsed at St. Petersburg. Twice have we supplicated in vain at Paris. We have menaced Austria, and Austria has allowed our menaces to pass her like the wind. (Hear, hear.) We have threatened Prussia, and Prussia has defied us. (Cheers.) Our objurgations have rattled over the head of the German Diet, and the German Diet has treated them with contempt. (Hear, hear.) During the last few months there is scarcely a form of diplomatic interference which has not been suggested or adopted by the English Government, except the Congress. (Hear, hear.) Conferences of Vienna, of Paris, of London—all have been proposed; protocols, joint declarations, sole motion, unity of motion, identic notes, sole notes, joint notes—(laughter and "Hear, hear,")—everything has been tried. Couriers from the Queen have been scouring Europe with the exuberant fertility of abortive projects. (A laugh and "Hear, hear.") After the termination of a most important Conference, held in the capital of the Queen, over which the Chief Minister of her Majesty's foreign relations presided, and which was attended with all the pomp and ceremony requisite for so great an occasion, we find that its sittings have been perfectly barren; and the chief Ministers of the Cabinet closed the proceedings by quitting the scene of their exertions and appearing in the two Houses of Parliament to tell the country that they have no allies—(Hear, hear)—and that as they have no allies they can do nothing. (Cheers.)

Lord Russell had very recently denounced the perfidy of Prussia, and mourned over Austrian fickleness, but Lord Palmerston supplied the last touch to the picture, for he condemned the vices of the victim, and inveighed at the last moment against the obstinacy of unhappy Denmark. (Laughter and cheers.) Did not that lower the just influence of England in the councils of Europe? He thought this a sound principle in foreign politics—

If England is resolved upon a particular policy, war is not probable. If there is, under these circumstances, a cordial alliance between England and France, war is most difficult—(Hear, hear); but if there is a thorough understanding between England, France, and Russia, war is impossible. (Cheers.)

The three Powers were only two years ago acting cordially together. What cards to play! But what had happened?

The Government have alienated Russia, they have estranged France—(Hear, hear), and then they call Parliament together to declare war against Germany. Such a thing never happened before in the history of this country; nay, more, I do not think it can ever happen again. It is one of those portentous results which occur now and again to humiliate and depress the pride of nations, and to lower their confidence in themselves. (A Ministerial laugh, answered by loud and renewed Opposition cheers.)

They had had threatening despatches, and no corresponding action. The consequence was that the German Powers did not fulfil their engagements. Europe was impotent to vindicate public law, and England felt that her honour had been stained. Thus the securities of peace were diminished. (Cheers.) And when this ambiguous conduct was exposed, Lord Palmerston asked, "What is your policy?"

My answer is—my policy is the honour of England. (Cheers and cries of "Oh!" from the Ministerial benches.) My policy is the honour of England and the peace of Europe, and the noble lord has betrayed both. (Loud cheers.)

How could the Opposition enounce a policy when they did not know what was going on—what proposals might have been made to any foreign Power, which might light up a general European war? It was not for Parliament—ignorant of the real state of affairs—to furnish the Cabinet with a policy. The most the Opposition could do would be to say what was not their policy.

We will not threaten and then refuse to act; we will not lure on our allies with expectations we do not fulfil; and, Sir, if it ever be the lot of myself or any other public men with whom I act to carry on important negotiations in this country, as the noble lord and his colleagues have done, I trust that we at least shall not carry them on in such a manner that it will be our duty to come to Parliament to announce to the country that we have no allies, and then declare that England can never act alone. (Cheers.) Sir, those are words which ought never to have escaped the lips of a British Minister. (Loud cheers.) They are sentiments which ought never to have occurred even to his heart. I repudiate—I reject them. (Cheers.) I remember there was a time when England had not a tithe of her present resources, when, inspired by a patriotic cause, she triumphantly encountered a world in arms. (Loud cheers.) And, Sir, I believe now, if the occasion were fitting, if her independence or her honour were attacked and assailed, or her empire were endangered—(cheers and counter-cheers)—I believe that England would arise in the magnificence of her might and struggle triumphantly for those objects for which men live and nations flourish. (Loud and continued cheers.)

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assured the House that the Government had no desire to shrink from any responsibility attached to it. He was not astonished that hon. members like Mr. Newdegate and Mr. Kinglake, who were mindful of the honour of the House, had desired to substitute resolutions for those of the right hon. gentleman, which had no policy at all. The gravamen of the charges of the right hon. gentleman was that France, which at one time was disposed to act cordially with us with

respect to Denmark, had been alienated, and changed her policy because she had been deserted with respect to Poland, and been placed in a false position in the eyes of her subjects. He would, however, read to the House the words of the French Minister who had represented the danger of the course of the German Powers and its consequences, in language far stronger than any ever used by his noble friend the Foreign Secretary. Again, the right honourable gentleman charged his noble friend (Earl Russell) with having declined the proposal for a general Congress in a curt and offensive manner. But how did he (Mr. Disraeli) regard it himself? How did this master of diplomatic courtesy, this statesman so studious of the feelings of his neighbours, speak of it? Why, on the 4th of February, in the debate on the address the right hon. gentleman characterised it as "an adroit manœuvre." (Cheers.) Mr. Gladstone then proceeded to show that Mr. Disraeli had not fairly quoted the despatches, but had striven to mislead the House. He charged him with having cited the despatch of Earl Russell with respect to the right of the Diet to regulate the succession in Holstein as referring to the Federal execution. The right hon. gentleman had charged the Government with having urged the Danes to concessions and then abandoned them when they had made them. The answer was, that no concession was urged upon Denmark except in common with the other Powers, and that concessions were made so late that they were no longer available. It was too much that, for the sake of wounding the Government, imputations should be fixed on England which she ought not to bear. The word of England was her bond, whatever Government was in office, and the right hon. gentleman, if he succeeded in his object, would find himself bound by the interpretations which he had put upon the despatches of the Government. The truth of the case was, that as soon as it was passed England had urged the Danes to recall the patent of November, which she refused to do until the eleventh hour, when the Federal troops were on the point of entering the Duchy. He quoted the despatches of the French and Swedish Governments to show that these Governments, as well as that of Russia, had more strongly urged the Danes not to resist the Federal execution in Holstein than Earl Russell. The Government conceived that England had no direct or special interest in the independence of Denmark. France had, from traditional ties, and Russia, who would not regard with indifference the security of her passage from the Baltic to the western world, had also special interests. Why then did the Government interfere? They interfered for reasons which he hoped would always influence the conduct of every English Government. To prevent the shedding of blood, and to secure the maintenance of peace in Europe. England could not remain indifferent to what was going on in Denmark, and the country would not have allowed the Government to remain inactive or indifferent without making some effort to avert it. The right hon. gentleman, with incontestable logic, laid down that with France, Russia, and England united, war was impossible in Europe. Why, the whole of the efforts of the Government had been directed to obtain the unity of France, Russia, and England on this question. (Cheers.) They recognised the importance of this fact quite as much as the right hon. gentleman, and it was not their fault that they had failed to induce those Powers to take the same view of the Treaty of London, to which they were equally parties with England. The Government at that time believed that it was for the interest of Europe that the Treaty of 1852 should be supported with adequate means—with that adequacy of means which diminishes or annihilates risks,—and they stood there responsible for having acted with that belief. (Cheers.) Had the right honourable gentleman an opinion on that point, or had he not? (Hear, hear.) He had not expressed it. He (Mr. Gladstone) should like to know what the right honourable gentleman would have done?—to dive into his inmost thoughts, but he concealed them with the tenacity of a miser guarding his precious treasure. The fault of the present complication was due, not to those who were ready to adhere to their engagements, but to those who were first to depart from them. He conceded that both France and Russia were entitled to decide for themselves what they would, under present circumstances, do with respect to the Treaty of 1852; but it was not fair, after they had declined to support it, to lay the blame of the failure at the door of the English Government, which was most anxious to maintain it. He was not aware of a single word having been said by way of menace to the German Powers after they had become aware that European combination in support of the treaty was no longer obtainable. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Disraeli) lastly charged the Government with having betrayed Denmark in the Conference, but it was incontestable that the Danes would never agree to the personal union of Holstein and Schleswig, and until the Government had ascertained that they would prefer to cede Holstein altogether, they had never suggested that they should make a territorial concession. The Government did the best they could for Denmark—as well as France, as well as Russia, as well as Sweden could. They were all described as smitten with "hopeless incapacity," but so long as they could show that their policy was that of the neutral Powers, he did not think Mr. Disraeli would succeed in driving home the deadly weapon he was aiming at their breasts. (Hear, hear.) The House must recollect that if they went to war the war might become general, and although there might be objects which were worthy of that contingency, it was one from which the boldest would shrink. It would have been war in the Adriatic as well as in Denmark.

(Cheers.) England could not go single-handed into war on behalf of the Treaty of 1852, without having fully ascertained the intentions of the other parties to it, and they must also take into consideration that if they had supported the extreme views of Denmark, they would have trampled the wishes and feelings of the people of Holstein and Schleswig under foot. He had now shown how truly the right hon. gentleman had quoted the despatches; he had replied to his charges, and he now frankly asked the House to meet his challenge. Now, what were the resolutions of the right hon. gentleman? They were the result of a five months' incubation by the right hon. gentleman—(laughter), and their terms had had the advantage of being revolved over and over again in all the brains of all the wisest gentlemen in the country—namely, those whom they saw sitting opposite. (Renewed laughter.) It was clear that the first object of that motion was to put an end to the existence of the Government, but the House was entitled to ask what would be the policy of those who desired to be installed in their places. Mr. Disraeli declined to say, as that would be accepting office upon conditions. ("Hear," and laughter.) He had contrived a motion intended to animate an Opposition to put an end to the life of the Government, but which, looked at as a declaration bearing upon public interests, was pale and colourless as a ghost. (Cheers and laughter.) Why was the just influence of the country lowered?

Because we have failed in averting war? (No!) Then nothing can succeed but success, and there can be no fault but failure. There may have been a failure for the moment, but if that failure has been a failure of honest, upright, generous efforts to prevent great masses of mankind from injuring and destroying one another—(loud cheers)—then the dispassionate Minister and Government which, being in office at the moment, endeavour to calm the troubled waters, may reap on one side—perhaps on both sides—nay, even from a party, although, I believe, a very small party, in this country, no other reward than disapproval and resentment; yet the recollection of these efforts in after years will present themselves, and it will be borne in mind that the voice of England had been raised for moderation and for justice. (Cheers.) The efforts of her Majesty's Government have been to teach wisdom to one party and mercy and forbearance to those who are sometimes said to have been tyrannous as well as strong. (Cheers.)

But he did not believe that the influence of the country was lowered. That was not the tone of those countries which were friendly to the Government, but it was the language of a portion of the foreign press, and it would seem that the resolutions were nothing better than a repetition of the almost ribald language of a few obscure journals in France. (Cheers.) It was from them that this intending Minister derived his inspiration. (Loud cheers.) It was from such sources that the lessons of English policy were to be learnt. (Renewed cheers.) He denied the proposition—

But even were it true, I say that, as far as my knowledge extends, this is the first occasion upon which the British House of Commons has been called upon to record, for the sake of displacing a Government, the degradation of their country. (Loud cheers.) Why can't the right hon. gentleman speak plainly? Why can't he adopt the language of our forefathers, who, when they objected to the conduct of the Government of the time, addressed the Crown, saying that the Government had lost their confidence, and praying that they might be removed from the councils of the Sovereign. Why can't he say, "We think the conduct of the Government is open to these charges—we withdraw our confidence from them, and we pray the Crown to put others in their places." But he was afraid to raise that issue. (Cheers.) The right hon. gentleman did not dare to say that; he could screw up his courage to a certain point, but he could not venture to assert the old constitutional form of a vote of want of confidence, and because he was not bold he thought he was wise. (Cheers.) He has adopted a form for which there is no precedent, for I believe at no time has party spirited any combination of Englishmen to place upon the records of this House a motion which can be regarded only as dishonourable to the country. (Cheers.) Go back to the times of Sir R. Walpole, of Lord North, and of Mr. Fox. Never will you find in them such a sterile, jejune affair as this proposed to the House of Commons. (Hear.) You will find that what was then to be said by the Opposition was spoken out in the good old English manner. (Cheers.) Their charges were written legibly in the face of the world, that all who ran might read; but now we have a motion not referring in express terms to the conduct of the Government, but substituting for the ancient and regular method of proceeding loose language, which may indeed be sufficient for the purpose of making it impossible for the Government to retain office, but which at the same time cannot transfix them without piercing the honour of the country. (Loud cheers.) Under these circumstances, I look forward with cheerfulness and comfort to the issue of this debate. (Renewed cheers.)

Mr. NEWDEGATE moved an amendment, declaring that the integrity and independence of Denmark ought to be guaranteed. He did not advocate immediate war, but he wished it to be understood that England was ready to co-operate with its allies before Denmark was dismembered. Mr. KINGLAKE could not agree to the amendment nor to the vote of censure, and therefore should move the amendment of which he had given notice, to express satisfaction that her Majesty had been advised to abstain from armed interference in the war between Denmark and the German Powers. General PEEL followed, and was replied to by the LORD-ADVOCATE. Lord STANLEY replied to Mr. Gladstone, and in the course of his speech said—

What I say is, that when you take a man's or a nation's affairs out of their own hands—when you assume the duty of advising, managing, directing, and when that is done by a very strong Power to a very feeble one—you incur a moral responsibility towards those who take your advice, and may be held to

guarantee that they shall not suffer by taking your advice, unless you have given them fair warning beforehand, as France did, and as you might have done, that you meant to interfere by mediation and advice, but meant to go no further. (Cheers.) If you had done that, Denmark would have shown less of that temper which one cannot help admiring, because it is almost heroic, but which is not prudent or politic; Germany might have proved far less bitter; and it is possible, and not improbable, that this quarrel might then have admitted of an amicable arrangement. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. COBDEN moved the adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-two minutes past one o'clock.

Miscellaneous News.

THE NEW SHERIFFS.—The polling for the new sheriffs closed on Thursday, when the numbers were:—For Mr. Alderman Dakin, 623; Mr. Alderman Besley, 610; Mr. Croskey, 133; Mr. Ellis, 63; and Mr. Gunn, 3. On Wednesday Mr. Croskey retired from the contest, as had Mr. Ellis on the previous day. Mr. Dakin and Mr. Besley have been declared duly elected.

NORTH LONDON TOLLBARS.—The tolls on nearly all the thoroughfares within a given radius north of the Thames, ceased to be legal on Thursday midnight. Crowds gathered at the various gates to see the last toll levied, and the first free passages. As the clock struck, the toll-keeper's name was removed from the toll-house door, and his right of levy ceased. The Abolition Act does not apply to the south side of the Thames.

RECRUITING FOR THE CONFEDERATE SERVICE.—At the Liverpool police-court, on Thursday, Edward Campbell, boarding-house keeper, was committed for trial on the charge of having induced a number of seamen to go to France and serve on board Confederate ships fitting out in ports of that country. The charge was proved by two men who were engaged by Campbell. They were to have 7*l.* a month and 10*l.* bounty; and were to serve on board the Georgia and Rappahannock.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE SUBJECT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENTS.—We understand this commission will shortly be issued, in accordance with the decision of the House of Commons. It is said that the commission will consist of the Duke of Richmond, Sir J. Coleridge, Mr. Hardy, M.P., Mr. William Ewart, M.P., Mr. Neate, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., Mr. Waddington, of the Home Office, the Attorney-General for Ireland, and the Lord Advocate for Scotland. We have not heard who will act as Secretary of the Commission; his appointment rests, as does that of the commissioners themselves, with Sir George Grey, Bart.—*Morning Star*.

Gleanings.

A poor carpenter named Wilson, living in Toxteth, has just had a fortune of 12,000*l.*, and each of his children 1,000*l.*, left him by a relative at Ormskirk.

Successful experiments have been made at Ostend and Dunkirk in fish by means of an electric light.

A tailor who, in skating, fell through the ice, declared that he would never again leave his hot goose for a cold duck.

A poor woman who had attended several confirmations, was at length recognised by the bishop. "Pray, have I not seen you here before?" said his lordship. "Yes," replied the woman; "I get me conformed as often as I can. They tell me it is good for the rheumatism."

"Clear the track, nigger!" said a rude white boy to a small American citizen of African descent. "Now you jes luff me alone," said Sambo. "I guess you'll wish you was a nigger yourself afore dis war's over."

An application was made to the Commissioner in Bankruptcy on Wednesday, on behalf of Colonel Waugh, for an allowance out of the estate. His Honour thought 1*l.* a week would be a reasonable allowance, but he should leave the matter in the hands of the assignees.

A Canadian farmer recently wanted his wife's funeral postponed on account of the non-arrival of a professional gentleman who was to extract several teeth from her containing twelve dollars' worth of gold filling.

During the past week sixteen wrecks have been reported, making a total for the present year of 913.

The following remarkable advertisement appears in a contemporary:—"Poacher wanted. Wanted, a thoroughly experienced poacher, by a farmer in the neighbourhood. Good encouragement will be given. Apply by letter to—, Post-office—." This is the very game indeed.

TAKING IT LITERALLY.—A blind man who does, or did, walk the streets of Birmingham asking for alms on the Scriptural plea of the cup of cold water, some kind little girl brought him the water instead of a penny. Whereupon the Brummagem Bartimeus, with a sagacity which would make him invaluable as an officer or a member of any bazaar committee, asked, "Is it hard, my dear?" "Yes, sir," was the timid response. "Ah, then, I didn't drink it."

DRAWING AN INFERENCE.—The beadle of a country parish in Scotland is usually called the minister's man. To one of these, who had gone through a long course of parish official life, a gentleman one day remarked:—"John, you have been so long about the minister's hand that I dare say you could preach a sermon now." John modestly replied, "Oh, na, sir, I couldna preach a sermon, but, maybe, I could draw an inference." "Well, John," said the gentleman, humouring the vanity of the old beadle, what inference could you draw from the text, 'A wild ass snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure'?" "Weel, sir, I would draw this inference—'He wad snuff a long time afore he would fatten upon't.'"

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, June 29.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued ..	£28,121,980
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	8,634,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	18,471,980
	£28,121,980
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000
Reserve ..	8,323,361
Public Deposits ..	10,213,535
Other Deposits ..	12,800,244
Seven Day and other Bills ..	460,681
	£41,355,821
Government Securities ..	£11,122,267
Other Securities ..	22,078,630
Notes ..	7,429,055
Gold & Silver Coin	725,896
	£41,355,821

June 30, 1864.

M. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

WOODALL.—June 18, at Mardol Head, Shrewsbury, the wife of Mr. J. W. Woodall, of a son.

WINTERBOTHAM.—June 28, at Norman Hill, Dursley, Gloucestershire, the wife of Arthur B. Winterbotham, Esq., of a son.

WILLIAMS.—June 29, at Harwich, Essex, the wife of Oliver J. Williams, Esq., of twin boys.

LAVER.—June 29, the wife of the Rev. R. Laver, Sutton Valence, of a son.

NEWTON.—July 4, the wife of Mr. H. W. Newton, of Stratford-on-Avon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

SUTCLIFFE—SCHORFIELD.—June 18, at the Square Church, Halifax, by the Rev. W. Roberts, M.A., John Bentley, eldest son of Mr. John F. Sutcliffe, of Scarbro', to Sarah, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Schorfield, card manufacturer, Halifax.

SKINNER—McTIER.—June 18, at the Independent Chapel, Basingstoke, by the Rev. J. Trotter, Mr. William Skinner, of Reading, to Louisa, widow of Mr. Henry S. McTier, late of Reading.

TAYLOR—COLE.—June 20, at Castle-street Congregational Chapel, Reading, by the Rev. J. Moosop, Mr. Alfred Taylor, of Reading, to Miss M. A. Cole, of Whitley.

TRANter—YOUNG.—June 21, at St. Andrew's-street Chapel, Cambridge, by the Rev. W. Robinson, John Daniels Tranter, of Market-street, Cambridge, to Jessie Bella, daughter of Mr. Robert Young, Supervisor of Inland Revenue.

BURGASS—CROSSLEY.—June 21, at Bridge-end Chapel, Raistrick, by the Rev. R. Harley, F.R.S., Mr. Thos. Burgass, dyer, to Judith Hannah, only daughter of Mr. Benj. Crossley, all of Raistrick.

SNARRY—BAKER.—June 22, at the Bar Church, Scarbro', by the Rev. R. Bagnall, Mr. J. Snarry, veterinary surgeon, Malton, to Alice Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Baker, farmer, Thornton-cum-Farnaby.

CLIFFT—HEELS.—June 23, at Lady-lane Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. T. W. Pearson, of Bath, assisted by the Rev. H. Bredon, of Leeds, Frederick Clift, Esq., of Bristol, to Mary Elizabeth, second daughter of Captain J. B. Heales, of Leeds.

FERRIS—SMITH.—June 25, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Plymouth, Thomas Francis Ferris, of Old Market-street, Plymouth, to Capella Eliza Smith, of Bocking, Essex.

BLINKHORN—ROUGHSEDE.—June 28, at the Independent Chapel, St. Helen's, by the Rev. R. J. Ward, William John, eldest son of Billinge Blinkhorn, Esq., of Ravenhead House, near St. Helens, to Annie, only daughter of the late Thomas Roughsedge, Esq., of Liverpool.

STEWART—PORTER.—June 28, at the Congregational Church, Robertson-street, Hastings, by the father of the bride, assisted by the father of the bridegroom, and the Rev. James Griffin, John, son of the Rev. Alex. Stewart, of Holloway, to Elizabeth Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Porter, of Hastings.

PEASTON—SPINK.—June 23, at Westbourne-grove Chapel, by the Rev. W. G. Lewis, Mr. William Peaston, of Paddington, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Spink, of Upper York-street, Bryanstone-square. No cards.

LOTHIAN—CAIRD.—June 23, at View Bank, Blackness-hill, Dundee, by the Rev. Robert Spence, M.A., James Lothian, Esq., merchant, London, to Jeanie, youngest daughter of John Caird, Esq., Dundee.

MARCHANT—BLIZARD.—June 29, at the Tabernacle, Moorfields, by the Rev. W. Grigsby, William James, eldest son of Mr. W. Marchant, of 25, New North-road, and 125, Curtain-road, to Emily Cole, second daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Dickenson Blizard, of Huntingdon. No cards.

HERBERT—RAPER.—June 29, at the Independent Chapel, Keighley, Charles Herbert, Esq., Bradford, to Miss Millicent Sugden, second daughter of J. Raper, Esq., late of Keighley.

WILSON—BOOTH.—June 29, at the Tabernacle, Oxford-street, Sheffield, by the Rev. Brewin Grant, B.A., Mr. William Henry Wilson, to Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Booth, Sheffield.

GRIFFIN—BROWN.—June 29, in the Tabernacle Chapel, Trowbridge, by the Rev. T. Mann, George Griffin, Esq., of Berechurch, Colchester, to Eliza, third daughter of the late Samuel Brown, Esq., of Trowbridge.

SCOTT—THORNTON.—June 29, at Providence-place Chapel, Cleekeaton, by the Rev. R. Cuthbertson, Mr. J. C. Scott, draper, to Jane Alderson, second daughter of Thos. Thornton, Esq., all of Cleekeaton. No cards.

LONSDALE—JORDAN.—June 29, at the Baptist Chapel, Newhall-street, Birmingham, by the Rev. J. Hosack, Mr. Lonsdale, of Gildersome, near Leeds, to Sybilla, only daughter of John Jordan, Esq., surgeon, Birmingham. No cards.

FISH—COXON.—June 30, at the Independent Chapel Potternewton, near Leeds, by the Rev. Mr. Parriab, assisted by the Rev. J. B. Lister, of Blackburn, Ralph Fish, Esq., of Livesey, near Blackburn, to Elizabeth Margaret, only daughter of the late Henry Coxon, Esq., Allerton House, near Leeds.

SMITH—DENMAN.—June 30, at Woodbridge Chapel, by the Rev. R. Luckin, Robert, only son of Mr. David Smith, of Red Lion-street, Holborn, to Eliza, only surviving daughter of Mr. John Denman, of High-street, Camden-town. No cards.

BOX—WATES.—July 5, at Greenwich, the Rev. Chas. Box, of Woolwich, to Jemima, eldest daughter of the late Mr. James Wates, senior.

DEATHS.

SOLOWAY.—June 16, at Greenfield, London-road, Worcester, aged eighty-three, Elizabeth, relict of the late Mr. Thomas Soloway, of Wick, near Pershore, and sister of the late Rev. Thomas Waters, of Worcester.

THOMPSON.—June 25, at Framlingham, Suffolk, Henry Thompson, Esq., in his seventy-fifth year.

VICKERS.—June 26, in his forty-ninth year, at his residence, Richmond-villas, Longsight, Mr. James Benjamin Vickers, of the firm of Vickers and Diggle, solicitors, of Manchester, for thirteen years the circuit steward of the Grosvenor-street circuit of the United Methodist Free Churches.

MEREDITH.—June 28, Rebecca, relict of Mr. Thos. Meredith, of Horncastle, in her eightieth year.

course pursued by her Majesty's Government has failed to maintain their avowed policy of upholding the integrity and independence of Denmark, it has lowered the just influence of this country in the councils of Europe, and thereby diminished the securities for peace. He said that nearly all the great wars of Europe had been wars of succession, and unfortunately the war now going on between Denmark and Germany came under this category. The efforts of the great Powers to avoid this result by the celebrated Treaty of 1852 had proved abortive. That treaty was one which well deserved the respect of all the Powers. It was simple in terms, its objects were singularly unselfish and ambitious, and the settlement effected by it had been recognised by all the Powers of Europe. Under that treaty England incurred no legal responsibility or engagements other than those incurred by France, while he considered the moral obligations of France towards Denmark were of no ordinary character. To France Denmark had proved herself a most faithful and devoted ally, and at St. Helena, the great Napoleon, reviewing his marvellous career, bore testimony to the fidelity of Saxony and Denmark, while on the other hand, England had found Denmark a gallant and formidable foe. It might be asked, why was the relation of France to Denmark now so singularly free from embarrassment, and ours so full of terrible complications? The answer was that the affairs of this country must have been very much mismanaged. (Hear, hear.) After glancing at the transactions which immediately preceded the treaty and to the controversy which grew up subsequently between the King of Denmark and the Diet of Germany, he considered the course taken by the British Government of that day, remarking that the other Powers of Europe did not interfere in that controversy. The correspondence which had encouraged the spirit and views of the German party ended in the celebrated despatch of the autumn of 1862. He referred to the oft-quoted speech of Lord Palmerston on the 23rd of July, 1862, on the subject of the difference between Denmark and the German Powers, and on the policy of the British Government upon this question, which contained the words that (under certain circumstances) "it would not be with Denmark alone they would have to contend"; and he showed by extracts from Lord Russell's despatches that those words expressed the real policy of the Government,—a policy which, in his opinion, was wise and judicious at that time, for Lord Palmerston knew that France was ready to co-operate with England, and had even spontaneously offered to act with us. Adverting, then, to the Polish insurrection, and the decision which had been come to by past administrations upon the question of Poland to abstain from interference, he observed that Earl Russell had announced a different policy, to the astonishment of the Emperor of the French, calling the attention of the Emperor of Russia to the six propositions, in peremptory terms. The House knew the end of all this, and the difficulty in which it placed the Emperor of the French. He was, therefore, not surprised at the change it produced in our relations with France. After this change, however, the policy of the British Government did not alter up to the end of September. In November two great events occurred which immensely affected the aspect of the relations between Denmark and Germany. The Emperor of the French, desirous to maintain a cordial understanding with this country, proposed a European Congress. Whatever opinion might be entertained as to the expediency of a Congress, there could not be two opinions as to the mode and manner in which the proposal was met, by a most offensive reply. The other event was the death of the King of Denmark; but neither of these events altered the policy of her Majesty's Government, as he showed from Lord Russell's despatches. It was open to them, he observed, to have adopted, after the death of the King of Denmark, the same course as other neutral Powers; and, if they had adopted that of France, it would have been intelligible and honourable. If they stood up for the balance of power they might have taken the management of the affairs of Denmark. But they had pursued a course unexampled in the history of this country. Notwithstanding the repeated menaces in the despatches, the Federal execution took place, as it was intended to take place; and what was the course of her Majesty's Government? He answered this question by reading extracts from the despatches—sometimes in a whining tone—contrasting the mild terms of the later with the menacing spirit of the earlier despatches. Mr. Disraeli then reverted to the history of the Dano-German dispute in connexion with the conduct of England towards Denmark, reading copious extracts from the despatches, which were cheered alternately by each side of the House, as certain passages tended to support or weaken his argument. In bringing the narrative of events to a close, he gave a short summary of the results of the Conference—that barren failure. It had simply wasted six weeks. It lasted as long as a carnival, and, like a carnival, it ended in masks and mystification. (Laughter.) At that Conference her Majesty's Government had made two considerable propositions—one, the dismemberment of Denmark—so much for its integrity; second, that Denmark should be placed under the joint guarantee of the Great Powers, which would be a fertile source of war—so much for its independence. By the policy of the Government these results had accrued:—The first was that the avowed policy of her Majesty's Government had failed. The second was that our just influence in the councils of Europe had been lowered. Thirdly, in consequence of our just influence in the councils of Europe being lowered, the securities for peace were diminished. (Cheers.)

He thus defined the legitimate position of England in Europe:—

The position of England in the councils of Europe is essentially that of a moderating and mediatorial Power. Her interest and her policy is, when changes are inevitable and necessary, to assist so that these changes, if possible, may be accomplished without war; or, if war occurs, that its duration and its asperity may be lessened. (Hear, hear.)

That was what he meant by the influence of England, which, if not forfeited, had been lowered.

Within twelve months we have been twice repulsed at St. Petersburg. Twice have we supplicated in vain at Paris. We have menaced Austria, and Austria has allowed our menaces to pass her like the wind. (Hear, hear.) We have threatened Prussia, and Prussia has defied us. (Cheers.) Our objurgations have rattled over the head of the German Diet, and the German Diet has treated them with contempt. (Hear, hear.) During the last few months there is scarcely a form of diplomatic interference which has not been suggested or adopted by the English Government, except the Congress. (Hear, hear.) Conferences of Vienna, of Paris, of London—all have been proposed; protocols, joint declarations, sole motion, unity of motion, identic notes, sole notes, joint notes—(laughter and "Hear, hear.")—everything has been tried. Couriers from the Queen have been scouring Europe with the exuberant fertility of abortive projects. (A laugh and "Hear, hear.") After the termination of a most important Conference, held in the capital of the Queen, over which the Chief Minister of her Majesty's foreign relations presided, and which was attended with all the pomp and ceremony requisite for so great an occasion, we find that its sittings have been perfectly barren; and the chief Ministers of the Cabinet closed the proceedings by quitting the scene of their exertions and appearing in the two Houses of Parliament to tell the country that they have no allies—(Hear, hear)—and that as they have no allies they can do nothing. (Cheers.)

Lord Russell had very recently denounced the perfidy of Prussia, and mourned over Austrian fickleness, but Lord Palmerston supplied the last touch to the picture, for he condemned the vices of the victim, and inveighed at the last moment against the obstinacy of unhappy Denmark. (Laughter and cheers.) Did not that lower the just influence of England in the councils of Europe? He thought this a sound principle in foreign politics—

If England is resolved upon a particular policy, war is not probable. If there is, under these circumstances, a cordial alliance between England and France, war is most difficult—(Hear, hear); but if there is a thorough understanding between England, France, and Russia, war is impossible. (Cheers.)

The three Powers were only two years ago acting cordially together. What cards to play! But what had happened?

The Government have alienated Russia, they have estranged France—(Hear, hear), and then they call Parliament together to declare war against Germany. Such a thing never happened before in the history of this country; nay, more, I do not think it can ever happen again. It is one of those portentous results which occur now and again to humiliate and depress the pride of nations, and to lower their confidence in themselves. (A Ministerial laugh, answered by loud and renewed Opposition cheers.)

They had had threatening despatches, and no corresponding action. The consequence was that the German Powers did not fulfil their engagements. Europe was impotent to vindicate public law, and England felt that her honour had been stained. Thus the securities of peace were diminished. (Cheers.) And when this ambiguous conduct was exposed, Lord Palmerston asked, "What is your policy?"

My answer is—my policy is the honour of England. (Cheers and cries of "Oh!" from the Ministerial benches.) My policy is the honour of England and the peace of Europe, and the noble lord has betrayed both. (Loud cheers.)

How could the Opposition enounce a policy when they did not know what was going on—what proposals might have been made to any foreign Power, which might light up a general European war? It was not for Parliament—ignorant of the real state of affairs—to furnish the Cabinet with a policy. The most the Opposition could do would be to say what was not their policy.

We will not threaten and then refuse to act; we will not lure on our allies with expectations we do not fulfil; and, Sir, if it ever be the lot of myself or any other public men with whom I act to carry on important negotiations in this country, as the noble lord and his colleagues have done, I trust that we at least shall not carry them on in such a manner that it will be our duty to come to Parliament to announce to the country that we have no allies, and then declare that England can never act alone. (Cheers.) Sir, those are words which ought never to have escaped the lips of a British Minister. (Loud cheers.) They are sentiments which ought never to have occurred even to his heart. I repudiate—I reject them. (Cheers.) I remember there was a time when England had not a tithe of her present resources, when, inspired by a patriotic cause, she triumphantly encountered a world in arms. (Loud cheers.) And, Sir, I believe now, if the occasion were fitting, if her independence or her honour were attacked and assailed, or her empire were endangered—(cheers and counter-cheers)—I believe that England would arise in the magnificence of her might and struggle triumphantly for those objects for which men live and nations flourish. (Loud and continued cheers.)

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER assured the House that the Government had no desire to shrink from any responsibility attached to it. He was not astonished that hon. members like Mr. Newdegate and Mr. Kingslake, who were mindful of the honour of the House, had desired to substitute resolutions for those of the right hon. gentleman, which had no policy at all. The gravamen of the charges of the right hon. gentleman was that France, which at one time was disposed to act cordially with us with

respect to Denmark, had been alienated, and changed her policy because she had been deserted with respect to Poland, and been placed in a false position in the eyes of her subjects. He would, however, read to the House the words of the French Minister who had represented the danger of the course of the German Powers and its consequences, in language far stronger than any ever used by his noble friend the Foreign Secretary. Again, the right honourable gentleman charged his noble friend (Earl Russell) with having declined the proposal for a general Congress in a curt and offensive manner. But how did he (Mr. Disraeli) regard it himself? How did this master of diplomatic courtesy, this statesman so studious of the feelings of his neighbours, speak of it? Why, on the 4th of February, in the debate on the address to the right hon. gentleman characterised it as "an adroit manœuvre." (Cheers.) Mr. Gladstone then proceeded to show that Mr. Disraeli had not fairly quoted the despatches, but had striven to mislead the House. He charged him with having cited the despatch of Earl Russell with respect to the right of the Diet to regulate the succession in Holstein as referring to the Federal execution. The right hon. gentleman had charged the Government with having urged the Danes to concessions and then abandoned them when they had made them. The answer was, that no concession was urged upon Denmark except in common with the other Powers, and that concessions were made so late that they were no longer available. It was too much that, for the sake of wounding the Government, imputations should be fixed on England which she ought not to bear. The word of England was her bond, whatever Government was in office, and the right hon. gentleman, if he succeeded in his object, would find himself bound by the interpretations which he had put upon the despatches of the Government. The truth of the case was, that as soon as it was passed England had urged the Danes to recall the patent of November, which she refused to do until the eleventh hour, when the Federal troops were on the point of entering the Duchy. He quoted the despatches of the French and Swedish Governments to show that these Governments, as well as that of Russia, had more strongly urged the Danes not to resist the Federal execution in Holstein than Earl Russell. The Government conceived that England had no direct or special interest in the independence of Denmark. France had, from traditional ties, and Russia, who would not regard with indifference the security of her passage from the Baltic to the western world, had also special interests. Why then did the Government interfere? They interfered for reasons which he hoped would always influence the conduct of every English Government. To prevent the shedding of blood, and to secure the maintenance of peace in Europe. England could not remain indifferent to what was going on in Denmark, and the country would not have allowed the Government to remain inactive or indifferent without making some effort to avert it. The right hon. gentleman, with incontestable logic, laid down that with France, Russia, and England united, war was impossible in Europe. Why, the whole of the efforts of the Government had been directed to obtain the unity of France, Russia, and England on this question. (Cheers.) They recognised the importance of this fact quite as much as the right hon. gentleman, and it was not their fault that they had failed to induce those Powers to take the same view of the Treaty of London, to which they were equally parties with England. The Government at that time believed that it was for the interest of Europe that the Treaty of 1852 should be supported with adequate means—with that adequacy of means which diminishes or annihilates risks,—and they stood there responsible for having acted with that belief. (Cheers.) Had the right honourable gentleman an opinion on that point, or had he not? (Hear, hear.) He had not expressed it. He (Mr. Gladstone) should like to know what the right honourable gentleman would have done?—to dive into his inmost thoughts, but he concealed them with the tenacity of a miser guarding his precious treasure. The fault of the present complication was due, not to those who were ready to adhere to their engagements, but to those who were first to depart from them. He conceded that both France and Russia were entitled to decide for themselves what they would, under present circumstances, do with respect to the Treaty of 1852; but it was not fair, after they had declined to support it, to lay the blame of the failure at the door of the English Government, which was most anxious to maintain it. He was not aware of a single word having been said by way of menace to the German Powers after they had become aware that European combination in support of the treaty was no longer obtainable. (Hear, hear.) The right hon. gentleman (Mr. Disraeli) lastly charged the Government with having betrayed Denmark in the Conference, but it was incontestable that the Danes would never agree to the personal union of Holstein and Schleswig, and until the Government had ascertained that they would prefer to cede Holstein altogether, they had never suggested that they should make a territorial concession. The Government did the best they could for Denmark—as well as France, as well as Russia, as well as Sweden could. They were all described as smitten with "hopeless incapacity," but so long as they could show that their policy was that of the neutral Powers, he did not think Mr. Disraeli would succeed in driving home the deadly weapon he was aiming at their breasts. (Hear, hear.) The House must recollect that if they went to war the war might become general, and although there might be objects which were worthy of that contingency, it was one from which the boldest would shrink. It would have been war in the Adriatic as well as in Denmark.

(Cheers.) England could not go single-handed into war on behalf of the Treaty of 1852, without having fully ascertained the intentions of the other parties to it, and they must also take into consideration that if they had supported the extreme views of Denmark, they would have trampled the wishes and feelings of the people of Holstein and Schleswig under foot. He had now shown how truly the right hon. gentleman had quoted the despatches; he had replied to his charges, and he now frankly asked the House to meet his challenge. Now, what were the resolutions of the right hon. gentleman? They were the result of a five months' incubation by the right hon. gentleman—(laughter), and their terms had had the advantage of being revolved over and over again in all the brains of all the wisest gentlemen in the country—namely, those whom they saw sitting opposite. (Renewed laughter.) It was clear that the first object of that motion was to put an end to the existence of the Government, but the House was entitled to ask what would be the policy of those who desired to be installed in their places. Mr. Disraeli declined to say, as that would be accepting office upon conditions. ("Hear," and laughter.) He had contrived a motion intended to animate an Opposition to put an end to the life of the Government, but which, looked at as a declaration bearing upon public interests, was pale and colourless as a ghost. (Cheers and laughter.) Why was the just influence of the country lowered?

Because we have failed in averting war? (No!) Then nothing can succeed but success, and there can be no fault but failure. There may have been a failure for the moment, but if that failure has been a failure of honest, upright, generous efforts to prevent great masses of mankind from injuring and destroying one another—(loud cheers)—then the dispassionate Minister and Government which, being in office at the moment, endeavour to calm the troubled waters, may reap on one side—perhaps on both sides—nay, even from a party, although, I believe, a very small party, in this country, no other reward than disapproval and resentment; yet the recollection of these efforts in after years will present themselves, and it will be borne in mind that the voice of England had been raised for moderation and for justice. (Cheers.) The efforts of her Majesty's Government have been to teach wisdom to one party and mercy and forbearance to those who are sometimes said to have been tyrannous as well as strong. (Cheers.)

But he did not believe that the influence of the country was lowered. That was not the tone of those countries which were friendly to the Government, but it was the language of a portion of the foreign press, and it would seem that the resolutions were nothing better than a repetition of the almost ribald language of a few obscure journals in France. (Cheers.) It was from them that this intending Minister derived his inspiration. (Loud cheers.) It was from such sources that the lessons of English policy were to be learnt. (Renewed cheers.) He denied the proposition—

But even were it true, I say that, as far as my knowledge extends, this is the first occasion upon which the British House of Commons has been called upon to record, for the sake of displacing a Government, the degradation of their country. (Loud cheers.) Why can't the right hon. gentleman speak plainly? Why can't he adopt the language of our forefathers, who, when they objected to the conduct of the Government of the time, addressed the Crown, saying that the Government had lost their confidence, and praying that they might be removed from the councils of the Sovereign. Why can't he say, "We think the conduct of the Government is open to these charges—we withdraw our confidence from them, and we pray the Crown to put others in their places." But he was afraid to raise that issue. (Cheers.) The right hon. gentleman did not dare to say that; he could screw up his courage to a certain point, but he could not venture to assert the old constitutional form of a vote of want of confidence, and because he was not bold he thought he was wise. (Cheers.) He has adopted a form for which there is no precedent, for I believe at no time has party spirit led any combination of Englishmen to place upon the records of this House a motion which can be regarded only as dishonourable to the country. (Cheers.) Go back to the times of Sir R. Walpole, of Lord North, and of Mr. Fox. Never will you find in them such a sterile, *sejune* affair as this proposed to the House of Commons. (Hear.) You will find that what was then to be said by the Opposition was spoken out in the good old English manner. (Cheers.) Their charges were written legibly in the face of the world, that all who ran might read; but now we have a motion not referring in express terms to the conduct of the Government, but substituting for the ancient and regular method of proceeding loose language, which may indeed be sufficient for the purpose of making it impossible for the Government to retain office, but which at the same time cannot transfix them without piercing the honour of the country. (Loud cheers.) Under these circumstances, I look forward with cheerfulness and comfort to the issue of this debate. (Renewed cheers.)

Mr. NEWDEGATE moved an amendment, declaring that the integrity and independence of Denmark ought to be guaranteed. He did not advocate immediate war, but he wished it to be understood that England was ready to co-operate with its allies before Denmark was dismembered. Mr. KINGLAKE could not agree to the amendment nor to the vote of censure, and therefore should move the amendment of which he had given notice, to express satisfaction that her Majesty had been advised to abstain from armed interference in the war between Denmark and the German Powers. General PEEL followed, and was replied to by the LORD-ADVOCATE. Lord STANLEY replied to Mr. Gladstone, and in the course of his speech said—

What I say is, that when you take a man's or a nation's affairs out of their own hands—when you assume the duty of advising, managing, directing, and when that is done by a very strong Power to a very feeble one—you incur a moral responsibility towards those who take your advice, and may be held to

guarantee that they shall not suffer by taking your advice, unless you have given them fair warning beforehand, as France did, and as you might have done, that you meant to interfere by mediation and advice, but meant to go no further. (Cheers.) If you had done that, Denmark would have shown less of that temper which one cannot help admiring, because it is almost heroic, but which is not prudent or politic; Germany might have proved far less bitter; and it is possible, and not improbable, that this quarrel might then have admitted of an amicable arrangement. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. COBDEN moved the adjournment of the debate, which was agreed to.

The other orders were disposed of, and the House adjourned at twenty-two minutes past one o'clock.

Miscellaneous News.

THE NEW SHERIFFS.—The polling for the new sheriffs closed on Thursday, when the numbers were:—For Mr. Alderman Dakin, 623; Mr. Alderman Besley, 610; Mr. Croakey, 133; Mr. Ellis, 63; and Mr. Gunn, 3. On Wednesday Mr. Croakey retired from the contest, as had Mr. Ellis on the previous day. Mr. Dakin and Mr. Besley have been declared duly elected.

NORTH LONDON TOLLBARS.—The tolls on nearly all the thoroughfares within a given radius north of the Thames, ceased to be legal on Thursday midnight. Crowds gathered at the various gates to see the last toll levied, and the first free passages. As the clock struck, the toll-keeper's name was removed from the toll-house door, and his right of levy ceased. The Abolition Act does not apply to the south side of the Thames.

RECRUITING FOR THE CONFEDERATE SERVICE.—At the Liverpool police-court, on Thursday, Edward Campbell, boarding-house keeper, was committed for trial on the charge of having induced a number of seamen to go to France and serve on board Confederate ships fitting out in ports of that country. The charge was proved by two men who were engaged by Campbell. They were to have 7*l.* a month and 10*l.* bounty; and were to serve on board the Georgia and Rappahannock.

ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE SUBJECT OF CAPITAL PUNISHMENTS.—We understand this commission will shortly be issued, in accordance with the decision of the House of Commons. It is said that the commission will consist of the Duke of Richmond, Sir J. Coleridge, Mr. Hardy, M.P., Mr. William Ewart, M.P., Mr. Neate, M.P., Mr. Bright, M.P., Mr. Waddington, of the Home Office, the Attorney-General for Ireland, and the Lord Advocate for Scotland. We have not heard who will act as Secretary of the Commission; his appointment rests, as does that of the commissioners themselves, with Sir George Grey, Bart. *—Morning Star.*

Gleanings.

A poor carpenter named Wilson, living in Toxteth, has just had a fortune of 12,000*l.*, and each of his children 1,000*l.*, left him by a relative at Ormskirk.

Successful experiments have been made at Ostend and Dunkirk in fish by means of an electric light.

A tailor who, in skating, fell through the ice, declared that he would never again leave his hot goose for a cold duck.

A poor woman who had attended several confirmations, was at length recognised by the bishop. "Pray, have I not seen you here before?" said his lordship. "Yes," replied the woman; "I get me conformed as often as I can. They tell me it is good for the rheumatism."

"Clear the track, nigger!" said a rude white boy to a small American citizen of African descent. "Now you jes luff me alone," said Sambo. "I guess you'll wish you was a nigger yourself afore dis war's over."

An application was made to the Commissioner in Bankruptcy on Wednesday, on behalf of Colonel Waugh, for an allowance out of the estate. His Honour thought 1*l.* a week would be a reasonable allowance, but he should leave the matter in the hands of the assignees.

A Canadian farmer recently wanted his wife's funeral postponed on account of the non-arrival of a professional gentleman who was to extract several teeth from her containing twelve dollars' worth of gold filling.

During the past week sixteen wrecks have been reported, making a total for the present year of 913.

The following remarkable advertisement appears in a contemporary:—"Poacher wanted. Wanted, a thoroughly experienced poacher, by a farmer in the neighbourhood. Good encouragement will be given. Apply by letter to—, Post-office—." This is the very game indeed.

TAKING IT LITERALLY.—A blind man who does, or did, walk the streets of Birmingham asking for alms on the Scriptural plea of the cup of cold water, some kind little girl brought him the water instead of a penny. Whereupon the Brummagem Bartimeus, with a sagacity which would make him invaluable as an officer or a member of any bazaar committee, asked, "Is it hard, my dear?" "Yes, sir," was the timid response. "Ah, then, I didn't drink it."

DRAWING AN INFERENCE.—The beadle of a country parish in Scotland is usually called the minister's man. To one of these, who had gone through a long course of parish official life, a gentleman one day remarked:—"John, you have been so long about the minister's hand that I dare say you could preach a sermon now." John modestly replied, "Oh, na, sir, I couldna preach a sermon, but, maybe, I could draw an inference." "Well, John," said the gentleman, humouring the vanity of the old beadle, what inference could you draw from the text, 'A wild ass snuffeth up the wind at her pleasure'?" "Weel, sir, I would draw this inference—'He wad snuff a long time afore he would fatten upon't.'"

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 32, for the week ending Wednesday, June 29.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.	
Notes issued ..	£28,121,980
Government Debt	£11,015,100
Other Securities ..	3,634,900
Gold Coin & Bullion	13,471,980
	£28,121,980
BANKING DEPARTMENT.	
Proprietors' Capital	£14,553,000
Reserve ..	3,328,361
Public Deposits ..	10,213,535
Other Deposits ..	12,800,244
Seven Day and other Bills ..	460,681
	£41,355,821
June 30, 1864.	M. MILLER, Chief Cashier.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

BIRTHS.

WOODALL.—June 18, at Mardol Head, Shrewsbury, the wife of Mr. J. W. Woodall, of a son.
WINTERBOTHAM.—June 28, at Norman Hill, Dursley, Gloucestershire, the wife of Arthur B. Winterbotham, Esq., of a son.
WILLIAMS.—June 29, at Harwich, Essex, the wife of Oliver J. Williams, Esq., of twin boys.
LAVER.—June 29, the wife of the Rev. R. Laver, Sutton Valence, of a son.
NEWTON.—July 4, the wife of Mr. H. W. Newton, of Stratford-on-Avon, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

SUTCLIFFE—SCHORFIELD.—June 18, at the Square Church, Halifax, by the Rev. W. Roberts, M.A., John Bentley, eldest son of Mr. John F. Sutcliffe, of Scarbro', to Sarah, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Henry Schorfield, card manufacturer, Halifax.
SKINNER—McTIER.—June 18, at the Independent Chapel, Basingstoke, by the Rev. J. Trotter, Mr. William Skinner, of Reading, to Louisa, widow of Mr. Henry S. McTier, late of Reading.
TAYLOR—COLE.—June 20, at Castle-street Congregational Chapel, Reading, by the Rev. J. Mossop, Mr. Alfred Taylor, of Reading, to Miss M. A. Cole, of Whitley.
TRANter—YOUNG.—June 21, at St. Andrew's-street Chapel, Cambridge, by the Rev. W. Robinson, John Daniels Tranter, of Market-street, Cambridge, to Jessie Bella, daughter of Mr. Robert Young, Supervisor of Inland Revenue.
BURGASS—CROSSLEY.—June 21, at Bridge-end Chapel, Raistrick, by the Rev. R. Harley, F.R.S., Mr. Thos. Burgess, dyer, to Judith Hannah, only daughter of Mr. Benj. Crossley, all of Raistrick.
SNARRY—BAKER.—June 22, at the Bar Church, Scarbro', by the Rev. R. Bagnall, Mr. J. Snarry, veterinary surgeon, Malton, to Alice Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. Samuel Baker, farmer, Thornton-cum-Farnaby.
CLIFFT—HEELES.—June 23, at Lady-lane Chapel, Leeds, by the Rev. T. W. Pearson, of Bath, assisted by the Rev. H. Bredon, of Leeds, Frederick Clift, Esq., of Bristol, to Mary Elizabeth, second daughter of Captain J. B. Heeles, of Leeds.
FERRIS—SMITH.—June 25, at the Friends' Meeting-house, Plymouth, Thomas Francis Ferris, of Old Market-street, Plymouth, to Capella Eliza Smith, of Booking, Essex.
BLINKHORN—ROUGHSEGE.—June 28, at the Independent Chapel, St. Helen's, by the Rev. R. J. Ward, William John, eldest son of Billings Blinkhorn, Esq., of Ravenhead House, near St. Helena, to Annie, only daughter of the late Thomas Roughsege, Esq., of Liverpool.
STEWART—PORTER.—June 28, at the Congregational Church, Robertson-street, Hastings, by the father of the bride, assisted by the father of the bridegroom, and the Rev. James Griffin, John, son of the Rev. Alex. Stewart, of Holloway, to Elizabeth Mary, eldest daughter of the Rev. W. Porter, of Hastings.
PEASTON—SPINK.—June 23, at Westbourne-grove Chapel, by the Rev. W. G. Lewis, Mr. William Peaston, of Paddington, to Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late Mr. John Spink, of Upper York-street, Bryanstone-square. No cards.
LOTHIAN—CAIRD.—June 23, at View Bank, Blackness-hill, Dundee, by the Rev. Robert Spence, M.A., James Lothian, Esq., merchant, London, to Jeanie, youngest daughter of John Caird, Esq., Dundee.
MARCHANT—BLIZARD.—June 29, at the Tabernacle, Moorfields, by the Rev. W. Grigsby, William James, eldest son of Mr. W. Marchant, of 25, New North-road, and 125, Curtain-road, to Emily Cole, second daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Dickenson Blizard, of Huntingdon. No cards.
HERBERT—RAPER.—June 29, at the Independent Chapel, Keighley, Charles Herbert, Esq., Bradford, to Miss Millicent Sugden, second daughter of J. Raper, Esq., late of Keighley.
WILSON—BOOTH.—June 29, at the Tabernacle, Oxford-street, Sheffield, by the Rev. Brewin Grant, B.A., Mr. William Henry Wilson, to Sarah, youngest daughter of Mr. Henry Booth, Sheffield.
GRIFFIN—BROWN.—June 29, in the Tabernacle Chapel, Trowbridge, by the Rev. T. Mann, George Griffin, Esq., of Berechurch, Colchester, to Eliza, third daughter of the late Samuel Brown, Esq., of Trowbridge.
SCOTT—THORNTON.—June 29, at Providence-place Chapel, Clockheaton, by the Rev. R. Outhberton, Mr. J. C. Scott, draper, to Jane Alderson, second daughter of Thos. Thornton, Esq., all of Clockheaton. No cards.
LONSDALE—JORDAN.—June 29, at the Baptist Chapel, Newhall-street, Birmingham, by the Rev. J. Hosack, Mr. Lonsdale, of Gildersome, near Leeds, to Sybilla, only daughter of John Jordan, Esq., surgeon, Birmingham. No cards.
FISH—COXON.—June 30, at the Independent Chapel, Potternorton, near Leeds, by the Rev. Mr. Parrish, assisted by the Rev. J. B. Lister, of Blackburn, Ralph Fish, Esq., of Livesey, near Blackburn, to Elizabeth Margaret, only daughter of the late Henry Coxon, Esq., Allerton House, near Leeds.
SMITH—DENMAN.—June 30, at Woodbridge Chapel, by the Rev. R. Luckin, Robert, only son of Mr. David Smith, of Red Lion-street, Holborn, to Eliza, only surviving daughter of Mr. John Denman, of High-street, Camden-town. No cards.
BOX—WATES.—July 5, at Greenwich, the Rev. Chas. Box, of Woolwich, to Jemima, eldest daughter of the late Mr. James Wates, senior.

DEATHS.

SOLOWAY.—June 16, at Greenfield, London-road, Worcester, aged eighty-three, Elizabeth, relict of the late Mr. Thomas Soloway, of Wick, near Pershore, and sister of the late Rev. Thomas Waters, of Worcester.
THOMPSON.—June 25, at Framlingham, Suffolk, Henry Thompson, Esq., in his seventy-fifth year.
VICKERS.—June 25, in his forty-ninth year, at his residence, Richmond-villas, Longsight, Mr. James Benjamin Vickers, of the firm of Vickers and Diggles, solicitors, of Manchester, for thirteen years the circuit steward of the Grosvenor-street circuit of the United Methodist Free Churches.
MEREDITH.—June 28, Rebecca, relict of Mr. Thos. Meredith, of Horncastle, in her eightieth year.

Literature.

MR. DYCE'S "SHAKESPEARE."*

There is no living name which has greater weight on questions connected with the text of our earlier authors and the principles on which they should be edited, than Mr. Dyce's. But his new Shakespeare will create difference of opinion; and not even profound respect for his judgment will silence complaint as to a few remarks in his preface, and occasional references to the labours and views of others. Mr. Dyce edited Shakespeare in 1857; and gave, as other editors had done, "an eclectic text," founded on a comparison of the first folio with the quartos, and with the correction of some of the more obvious mistakes of the folio in the plays not first printed in quarto. The present edition—which can hardly with propriety be called "second"—differs widely from its predecessor; Mr. Dyce having abandoned the principle which formerly guided him as to the introduction of conjectural emendations into the text; and having become almost amusingly severe on those who hold by his own earlier example, if not even capable of something of contemptuousness towards the jealous caution which he himself has induced in others. With this passing allusion to a tone which has seemed to us a little unpleasant, we gladly and gratefully acknowledge the great worth of Mr. Dyce's labours, and the high importance of the edition of Shakespeare on which he has spent his matured experience and remarkable knowledge.

This "second" edition, then, exhibits a text "altered and amended from beginning to end." Mr. Dyce says: "Throughout the former edition, influenced, perhaps unconsciously, by the example of Malone and of some later editors (whom the overboldness of Pope, Theobald, Hanmer, &c., had rendered over-cautious), I was content to allow readings of a much more than doubtful character to retain their places in the text, provided I made mention in the notes how a considerable portion of them had been corrected by critical conjecture. Of the impropriety of such a plan—as tending only to perpetuate error—I am now fully convinced; nor assuredly has my conviction on that head been at all shaken by the recently-published volumes of the Cambridge Shakespeare, in which (whatever its merits in other respects) the editors adhere *passim* to the corruptions of the old copies with a pertinacity akin to that of Mr. Knight, before his superstitious devotion to the first folio had lost something of its fervour." Mr. Dyce's conversion is thorough; and he carries his new opinion to the extent of affirming—perhaps with implied special reference—"that an exact reprint of the old text with its multifarious errors forms a more valuable contribution to literature than a semi-corrected text, which, purged here and there of the grossest blunders, continues still, almost in every page, to offend against sense and metre." To this one may good-humouredly reply, that there are various principles on which a great author may be edited; and editions the most different in character may be of equal value for different purposes, as contributions to literature. We fortunately have the "exact reprint of the old text with its multifarious errors" now in course of publication: and we agree with Mr. Dyce as to its literary value, but not to his disparagement of what he calls a semi-corrected text. We have recorded our opinion of the "Cambridge Shakespeare": "nor assuredly has our conviction on that head been at all shaken by the recently published volumes of"—Mr. Dyce. The principle of each is intelligible, definite, and defensible. The one introduces no emendations but those which are self-evident; prefers to leave offences against sense and metre untouched, rather than admit anything but what Shakespeare *must* have written; and collects in notes all the conjectures by which it has been proposed to amend the early texts. The other employs conjecture for the restoration of the text; and, on the judgment of the editor, adopts the emendations proposed from time to time by critics and commentators, if there is a fair probability of their being the genuine readings. Sure we are that Shakspearians would not be willing to lose either. Without balancing them one against another, each is to be welcomed; and each has its peculiar value, to the scholarly student of Shakespeare or to the loving reader of the plays. Sometimes we are not disposed to let another, however accomplished, judge for us; and might desire to see for our-

selves what has been proposed for the correction of a corruption as to which we feel able to exercise our own judgment. At other times, one would wish to read smoothly,—trustfully resting on the proved sagacity of an editor. Mr. Dyce's edition will always have eminent value for those who are not accustomed to exercise critical judgment, or those who have little or no acquaintance with our elder language: for very many of the conjectures on Shakspeare, that have been seriously offered, show both that few have critical judgment, and that a fruitful source of emendation is ignorance of literature. The scholar, too, will be largely influenced by Mr. Dyce's text: for we doubt whether any editor of Shakspeare has, on the whole, displayed a more learned, tasteful, and precise judgment.

There is, of course, plenty of room for difference of opinion as to the amended text of Mr. Dyce. Some of his corrections are unquestionably just; others are excellent, nearly approaching certainty; others are doubtful: and there are yet places left in their corruptness, as to which Mr. Dyce has rejected conjectures that we and others think highly probable or perfectly satisfactory. No emendation has been made without the deviation from the early copies being marked fully in the notes. These notes also contain explanatory and critical remarks, in defence of the reading adopted:—and a little controversial matter besides. Mr. Dyce has not been rash—not greedy of innovations on the text. In proposing to himself to adopt "the happiest emendations" of the last century and a-half, he would know that there could be no present general agreement as to the "happiest," or as to the force of their internal evidence. Outside Theology there is no more thorny field than that of Shakspeare textual-criticism.

We select a few instances of the emendation of passages which have a sort of notoriety as corrupt, and as having been the occasion of multifarious conjectures; and this for the sake of exhibiting Mr. Dyce's judgment rather than for the pronouncing of our own, except where we so strongly dissent that we regard the editor himself as something like a corrupter.

In the *Tempest* (I. ii.) the passage

"One midnight
Fated to the purpose, did Antonio open
The gates of Milan; and, in the dead of darkness,
The ministers for the purpose hurried thence
Me and thy crying self,"

is altered by Mr. Dyce, adopting the suggestion of Mr. Collier's M.S. corrector, to "fated to the practice," for the only reason that *purpose* occurs two lines lower down. But the alteration involves the attributing to the word "practice" such an unusual meaning as *contrivance*.

Again, Caliban promises to give Trinculo, among other things,—

"Young scameles from the rock";

which Mr. Dyce retains—rejecting the conjecture, *seamell* (the sea-mew), which we think undoubtedly correct, and inclining to *stanniels* (a species of hawk), which, both in resemblance of letters and in meaning, is a word much less likely to be the true reading.

The great difficulty of the lines,—

"But these sweet thoughts do even refresh my labours,
Most busy lest when I do it,"

may excuse Mr. Dyce's adoption of Theobald's conjecture—"Most business when I do it"—as giving a fair meaning. But we cannot think it defended by instances of words similarly formed, taken from Sylvester, or by Johnson's and Richardson's introduction of the word into their dictionaries, on the strength of Theobald's emendation. We do not accept this alteration as final.

Again (IV. i.), the celebrated phrase,—

"Leave not a rack behind,"

is altered to *wreck*, to which word Mr. Dyce committed himself some years ago. The passages quoted by him from Fletcher and Milton show that *wreck* was frequently spelt *wrack*, or *rack*; but they do not decide the propriety of the image given by the word "wreck"; and in the following passage, Mr. Dyce has not quite succeeded, in our opinion, in disposing of the critic whom he quotes as defending the folio reading.

"Dr. Richardson has favoured me with a letter containing an elaborate defence of 'Leave not a rack behind'; but his arguments have only strengthened my conviction that it is wrong. A portion of his pleading in favour of 'rack' runs thus:—'Prospero, the magician, has presented a vision of baseless fabric, and the actors and agencies of it are melted into thin air; and he pronounces that like this baseless fabric the fabric of the great globe itself shall dissolve—that is, melt; and, like this faded or *evanished* unsubstantial pageant, shall by this dissolution (not destruction or disruption) leave not (the only possible relic of such visionary unsubstantial pageant) a rack behind. All likeness would be lost by the substitution of *wreck*—a mass of solid ruins.' Now, I cannot but think that in the above minute analysis of the simile Dr. Richardson shows himself over-subtle. Shakespeare, I believe, meant nothing more than this—'As the unsubstantial pageant had wholly vanished, so the great substantial globe itself should pass away without leaving a single fragment behind.'"

There is force in Dr. Richardson's remark on "the loss of likeness" in the image suggested by *wreck*; and if the passage be corrupt as it stands, it is so to the advantage of the poetry. It is a question, however, whether there is any corruption; and, if so, whether we gain a true emendation in "*wreck*." Malone's remark that our early writers never say "a rack," but "*the rack*," is almost puerile. Surely there are instances enough how plastic is language in the hands of Shakspeare; and there is propriety enough in "*a rack*," when we find such phrases always common as "*a thin cloud-rack*," "*a singularly-formed rack, above the setting sun*."

There are numerous emendations of the text of this play which are of no great importance, and which do not need to be cited. A few others are, "*Ling, heath, broom, furze*, any-thing" (from Hanmer), instead of "*Long heath, brown firs*," &c.; "*I have with such prevision in mine art*" (Hunter), for "*provision*"; "*thou his only heir—a princess*" (Hanmer and Pope), for "*and his only heir and princess*"; "*their freshness and gloss*" (Swynfen Jervis), for "*glosses*"; "*and sends me forth, for else his project dies, to keep thee living*" (Dyce), for "*to keep them living*." All these are adopted with good judgment; and the old corruptions ought never again to be reproduced.

In *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, Mr. Dyce adopts an excellent correction from the Collier MS., in the speech of Julia, where she compares her love to a stream that

"Makes sweet music with th' enamelled stones,
Giving a gentle kiss to every sedge
He overtaketh in his pilgrimage,
And so by many winding nooks he strays,
With willing sport, to the wide ocean."

The folio has *wilde*; but Julia thinks of the expanse, not the boisterousness, of the sea, as the following lines show, which declare that, "after much turmoil," "there I'll rest." In defence of Rowe's introduction of the word "kissed" in the line, "Item, she is not to be *kissed* fasting, in respect of her breath," a passage is given from Webster's *Duchess of Malfi*, "I would sooner eat a dead pigeon taken from the soles of the feet of one sick of the plague, than kiss one of you fasting." No passage had been given previously in illustration by the commentators; but Mr. Dyce says he could adduce half-a-dozen.

In the lines,—

"Come, go with us, we'll bring thee to our crews,
And show thee all the treasure we have got,"

which is the reading of the folio, the amended text has, "bring thee to our *cave*" (Collier's MS. corrector), with great probability. A suggestion from the same quarter to read,

"What, didst thou offer her this *cur* from me?"

instead of "offer her this from me," as the folio has it, might well have been adopted too. "*This shadowy desert, unfrequented woods*," is altered to "*These shadowy, desert, unfrequented woods*," suggested independently by Mr. Dyce and the Collier corrector.

In *The Merry Wives &c.*, Mr. Dyce's notes more frequently defend the early readings that have been assailed, than propose alterations. Some of the most noticeable are, "at a *minim's* rest" (I. iii.) for "at a *minute's* rest";—"this revolt of mine" for "the revolt of mine," (I. iv.) Pope's conjecture being preferred to that of the Cambridge editors, certainly not a happy one, "the revolt of mine anger":—the correction of the inversion "a blind bitch's puppies," "a bitch's blind puppies":—and "these fair *oaks*," for "these fair *yokes*," and in preference to either "fairy caks" or "fairy jokes." But we do not believe in a *ging* for *gin*—as we once before explained: nor do we like to leave without correction the "ignorance itself is a *plummet* o'er me" of Falstaff's dejected speech to his gibing tormentors.

In *Measure for Measure*, the vexed passage within the opening half-dozen lines remains un-amended: and it is too bad of Mr. Dyce, while admitting the corruption, to sneer with an "N. B." against "fire-new restorations of the passage." The more interesting and valuable emendations adopted into the text are "the sword of heaven" (Roberts) for the "words of heaven," in the lines—

"The sword of heaven,—on whom it will, it will;
On whom it will not, so; yet 'tis just still";

—the substitution of, *scorn* (Davenant) for *story* in the line, "Sir, make me not your scorn";—"O injurious *law*" (Davenant), for "O injurious *love*," which is clearly wrong;—"The priestly Angelo," and "priestly guards," for the *prenzi* in each phrase which has excited so much controversy;—and "how the villain would *glose* now," for "would *close* now,"—as suggested by Halliwell, Grant White, and others independently, and to which Mr. Staunton has strangely and unsuccessfully objected. "O *gravel heart*!" is preserved in a passage where the Collier corrector propounds, "O *grovelling* beast!"—Mr.

* *The Works of William Shakespeare*. The Text revised by the Rev. ALEXANDER DYCE. In eight volumes. Vols. I. and II. Second edition. London: Chapman and Hall.

Grant White, however, having adopted the latter. One note we give entire:—

"Ere twice the sun hath made his journal greeting
To th' under generation."

"The folio has 'To yond generation,' &c. I give the correction of Hammer (who said that the 'yond' of the folio was nothing else than 'yond,'—the under), a correction made, says Johnson, 'with true judgment.' Yet how unaccountably has it been misunderstood! Steevens (defending it), and Mr. Knight and others (rejecting it) agree in supposing that 'the under generation' can only mean the *Antipodes*! But, surely, the following passages,

"Approach, thou beacon to this under globe,
That by thy comfortable beams I may
Peruse this letter!"

King Lear.

and

"You are three men of sin, whom Destiny,—
That hath to instrument this lower world,
And what is in 't," &c.

Tempest.

might have shown them that 'the under generation' is equivalent to the generation who live on the earth beneath,—mankind in general."

Some of these matters quoted by us are not new to this edition; some but follow the precedents of other editors. We propose to return to Mr. Dyce's second volume on a future occasion; and reserve till then a few words on the life of Shakespeare by the editor. We must have made it apparent to our readers that we think this newly revised text deserving of most respectful attention, and that it is to be received as one of the most scholarly editions ever produced.

"HAUNTED HEARTS."*

The author of the "Lamp-lighter," whose former work attracted considerable attention, has presented us with another tale, entitled "Haunted Hearts," which will fully maintain, if it does not increase, the reputation she won by her previous work. There is nothing brilliant in the story—nothing displaying any great originality of power; but it is an interesting tale, told with considerable beauty and effect. In fiction, as in every other department of literature, first-class writers are comparatively rare; but if an author can succeed in securing the attention of his readers, and while ministering to their amusement can inculcate lessons of lasting value, he does a real service which we are bound to acknowledge. To this excellence the writer of the book before us has certainly attained. Admirers of Miss Braddon, and what has happily been called the Kitchen school of fiction, will doubtless think the work tame and spiritless; but while there is very little of the sensational, there is quite enough of varied and startling incident to meet the demands of all sober-minded readers. Considerable care has been employed on the construction and elaboration of the plot, and it must be confessed that it shows no little skill. Practised critics will no doubt see from the first that things are not as they seem, but the secret is exceedingly well kept, and the exact mode of the *denouement* could not be safely predicted until it actually breaks upon us. This is a quality which we ourselves do not affect to despise. A tale may subvert other and more important designs, but one of its primary purposes is to amuse, and if it should fail in this, it would not accomplish even the higher ends which should be sought. Dullness, not a very desirable quality in any sort of composition, is a cardinal offence in works of fiction, and however sound the principles they may set forth, or lofty the feelings they may seek to inspire, they are sure to miss their mark if they only induce weariness and disappointment in the reader. It is infinitely better, in fact, to have a formal dissertation, in which the mind is somewhat prepared for something dry, than to be beguiled by the promise of something lively and entertaining, and then utterly to fail in realising the expectation. It is because they are untrue to their own character and intention, that of all "stale, flat, and unprofitable" books, novels "with a purpose" are the most prosy and uninviting. The writer of "Haunted Hearts" deserves credit for not committing this error. She (for we assume that she is a lady) evidently desires to produce impressions that shall remain on the intellect and heart long after the book has been put aside, and we have no doubt that in this she will succeed; but her success will be owing mainly to the fact that the tale in which she has sought to teach these lessons of wisdom is full of life and interest.

"Haunted Hearts" is an American story, "suggested," says the writer, "by some of the traditions of a New Jersey district, related to me, from time to time, by a venerable New Jersey farmer, my host, and the companion or instigator of my excursions during a few weeks' sojourn at the farm." The period to which the tale belongs is in the American war, 1812,

and the catastrophe turns upon certain proceedings of pirates which could have been possible only during such a time of warfare. It is a hamlet lying on a cross road, little travelled, and therefore in reality considerably removed from the world, though at no great distance from New York, that forms the centre round which the leading events of the story are grouped. A pirate captain finding his way here, and assuming the character of a wounded British officer on parole, succeeds in practising upon the credulity and ignorance of the unsophisticated inhabitants, wins universal favour by the gaiety of his spirit and fascination of his manners, and plays upon the weaknesses and follies of his new acquaintances, until he has contrived to entangle them in a mesh of crime and mystery, that darkens the hearts and homes of a hitherto peaceful community. The incidents, of course, are not such as occur in ordinary life, but taking into account the character of the times and the district, they cannot be called improbable, and they are certainly made to fit with admirable consistency into a story, which sustains the interest of the reader throughout. Some of the scenes are very powerful, and drawn with great dramatic skill and effect. In this category may be placed all the occurrences in New York; the interview with the wretched Bly in the prison; the trial, with the incidental and characteristic sketches of the lawyers engaged in it; the apparition of the unexpected witness, and its effects. The mystery in which the whole is involved and on which the tale hangs is well kept up, and the general issue in every way satisfactory.

In the conception and portraiture of the characters, too, great skill is shown. The pirate, free, easy, and dashing, who is as much at home in the ball-room of the rustic inn as on the deck of his own saucy vessel; who can amuse the idle hours of himself and others by the soft songs he sings to his guitar; who can, on occasion, condescend to humour the fancies of a worn-out French *petit-maitre* or the stolidity of New Jersey bores, but who is always intent on his own purposes, is not a new character: but we are grateful to the writer because while bringing out these traits, she makes no attempts to throw around him that halo of romance with which some writers are too prone to invest men of this class. On the contrary, he is represented as a pure, unadulterated rascal, who is ready for either the grander or the meaner villanies which may lie in his path; who has no respect for the rights of man or pity for the weaknesses of woman; who looks down upon the simple villagers with "such a glance as a naturalist might bestow upon 'poor specimens of a familiar species of insect,' and contrives to make them all his tools; and whose atrocious and revolting crimes alienate every feeling of sympathy that his wretched fate might otherwise have awakened. In the villagers themselves are developed many of those features which we are wont to regard as characteristic of the Yankee. The keen, unscrupulous, self-seeking man, who contrives to keep himself within the limits marked out by the law, but whose heart is set upon gain, and who, in its pursuit, stifles natural feeling, tramples on the principles of equity, and adopts every sort of expedient, finds a fitting type in the grasping landlord of Stein's Tavern. He and his family are as repulsive a group as we could easily find, and the retribution which comes upon them is felt to be as just as it is terrible. There is much force in the picture of him as he sits, in the wreck of his fortunes, overwhelmed, not more by the defeat of his own schemes than by the triumph of the nephew whom he had sought to ruin by his cruel and treacherous manoeuvres. "The expression of his face was one of unmitigated awe and wonder, as if a miracle had been performed in his presence. He surveyed, followed, watched George with an admiring, almost a deferential gaze. Could it be that, disappointed and degraded by the children for whom he had sold his soul to Mammon, he bowed and bent in admiring homage before the success of the youth whom he had systematically 'wronged?' The more pleasing side of the same style of character is exhibited in Van Hansen, with his stern integrity, his unshaken adherence to Geordie in the darkest hour of his sad fortunes, his resolution to find out the criminal, and his generous scorn of the acts of Stein and his friends. Even his harshness to poor Angie, the exaggeration of the better qualities of his nature, though it irritates us, has something to plead in its favour. But above all, Hannah Rawle is a genuine specimen of the class, both in some of its nobler instincts and its worst tendencies. Taken altogether, this hard, "gritty" woman, whose head has been almost turned and her nature soured by the calamity that has fallen upon her, is one of the most original conceptions and best-drawn pictures of the book. There is nothing very marked or distinctive about Geordie, whom we must regard as the hero; but Angie,

the heroine, is very cleverly drawn. At first she is little more than a pretty, thoughtless, weak-headed coquette, who finds a foolish pleasure in asserting her power over the youth whom she loved with her whole soul. But his misfortunes, brought on mainly by her folly, cause her to develop into a very different character. The bitterness with which she reproaches herself, the self-sacrifice with which she devotes herself to the afflicted mother of her lover, the tact with which she seeks to conceal what seemed to be the damning evidence of his crime, and the readiness with which she endured mental tortures for five long years to screen even his memory from reproach,—are depicted with great power, and interest all on her behalf. We do not often meet with anything more touching and beautiful than the representation of the fidelity and self-devotion of these two women, Angie and Margaret Rawle, their hearts "haunted so long by painful memories and mighty dread," yet never tempted to betray the secret which was preying upon them.

The book seems designed to teach, and assuredly it does it well, that the heaviest sorrows of life are often brought about by acts of mere thoughtlessness; that things apparently trivial are exalted into importance by the consequences to which they lead; that however we may sometimes repine against our lot, and complain of circumstances, it is our own hands that prepare the rods with which we are scourged: but that even out of the lowest depths there is a path of duty by which a man may regain what he has lost by folly. Much as we pity George and Angie, we cannot but feel that they had brought on themselves the sorrows which had well-nigh crushed them, and one of the bitterest reflections that troubled them must have been the feeling that they were "filled with their own devices." Very impressive, too, is the picture of Hannah Rawle discovering at last that the bitter thoughts of revenge which she had harboured for years had been unrighteous, as well as unchristian; that the curses she had invoked had been called down upon an innocent head; and that she who fancied herself the avenger of wrong had been all the time a miserable sinner. "You're right, George," was the confession of the humbled woman, "the Lord makes no mistakes. But oh! what mischief we make in our ignorance! How we tempt His providence! We'd better sit still and wait for Him; He comes in His own good time, and brings with Him justice and judgment." Some of the vague religious references scattered through the book we could have very well dispensed with. They really mean nothing, and serve only to provoke criticism as to the views the author may entertain. We never like to sit in judgment on the theology of a mere story, but there is something in the indefinite utterances we sometimes find in works of fiction that almost tempts us to depart from our resolve. The subject is one, few of our tale-writers, unfortunately, seem to understand, and they would do as well were they to leave it entirely untouched. Still, we can commend the book as sound in its moral tone, healthful in its general influence, and, as a tale, possessed of more than average merit.

"LAWS OF NATURE THE FOUNDATION OF MORALS."*

"The title of this book," says the author, in his preface, "will disclose its design to those acquainted with the history of moral philosophy." Meekly accepting what may be called the inference by retort, we must acknowledge that the title by no means disclosed the book's design to us. On the contrary, we felt tempted to exclaim, "How very superfluous! If morality is not founded in laws of nature, what else can it be founded in?" But the book has a really imposing appearance. It is so well printed; the pages have such an air of philosophical method and neatness; the index looks so systematic and well-arranged; the author has such confidence in himself and in his having discovered a new, original, and satisfactory theory of morals; his announcement that it is based on the "inductive" method seems to promise so much; and he has evidently read or consulted so many of the best (English) books on moral philosophy, that we were unwilling to give way to unfavourable impressions, and read on and on till we had finished it. To our great astonishment, we had then not the slightest idea of what the author's theory really was. Still, it seemed unlikely that the author of a respectably-executed "Manual of the British Constitution" would write a confused and muddle-headed book. Besides, in addition to the promising superficial features mentioned above, which seemed to suggest that the author must have a deeper and

* *Haunted Hearts*. By the Author of the "Lamp-lighter." Two vols. London: Sampson Low, Son, and Marston.

* *Laws of Nature the Foundation of Morals*. By DAVID ROWLAND. London: J. Murray.

clearer meaning than we could detect, the first chapter shows a glimmering apprehension of the questions at issue; the style, though extremely dull, has a plainness which is the first requisite in philosophical discussions; and lastly, the author is evidently an earnest man who tries to think clearly, and would think profoundly if he could. So we began again. And after repeated reading of what seemed its vital and significant portions, we are forced to risk the damaging inference that the want of apprehension lies with us, and not with the author of the reputable "Manual of the 'British Constitution,'" (in mitigation of which we would plead that we have no difficulty in understanding his quotations from Hobbes, Butler, Mill, &c.) and must confess that after steeping our intelligence for some time in the fluent stream of the author's seemingly intelligible sentences, we are as innocent of any idea of what he is driving at as a duck's back is of moisture on a wet day.

From the earlier parts of the book, our impression was, that Mr. Rowland's doctrine was something of this kind,—though as he nowhere gives a brief and definite statement, it is not to be wondered at if we are totally wrong:—That man's performance of such acts as contribute to his welfare, and the welfare of society, (which is only another way of saying, his compliance with the moral law), is sought to be secured by the implantation in his nature of particular desires and affections (natural laws), which prompt him to those actions. But this is only calling Butler's "particular affections" by a new name; and, by the use of a guarded phraseology, reserving (for they must come in) the discussion as to the nature of conscience, and the question of utilitarianism *versus* immutable morality. But how far we are in the wrong, and what is the clearness, consistency, and value of Mr. Rowland's speculations, the reader shall gather for himself from the following (connected) extracts from his chapter on conscience. He is here carefully marking off his theory from Dr. Whewell's and Mr. Bain's.

"The universal conscience, I venture to think, is to be found in the moral laws implanted in man's mind and written in his heart. Conscience is the reason acting as a moral sense. The laws are the media through which it acts. On this hypothesis, there is, first, the motive to an immoral action derived from the appetites; next the law forbidding it, and finally, the reason pointing out the law, offering moral objections, and disclosing the sanctions of the law."—P. 174.

This book is "submitted to the consideration of 'philosophers'." We think Mr. Rowland might have spent half his life in a Diogenes-like quest over the universe for a philosopher who would take an affidavit that he understood either of the above sentences, or the connection between them. And this is his highest effort at clearness, in the very crisis of his exposition, in his final agony of explanatoriness! Is it not enough to give any conscientious critic (as a writer of notices is presumptuously called), sleepless nights and uncomfortable days? He continues:—

"Before I proceed to develop the force of this hypothesis, it is necessary to make some observations on the scope and action of conscience, applicable not only to this hypothesis, but to every theory of conscience."

And this he proceeds to do for the space of six pages, when we "return to our muttons" at the bottom of page 180. We fancy when Mr. Rowland perpetrated this long digression, he began to have a misgiving whether he had a theory at all, and fought shy of his task. He resumes his interrupted statement thus (without a connecting remark):—

"The conscience appears to me to act on three distinct media, which I shall place inversely to their moral importance, in order to consider what I conceive to be the true moral conscience (fancy an immoral conscience!) last in order.

"I. Our conception of our religious duty to God.

"II. The benevolent affections implanted in the mind.

"III. The natural moral laws."

We give the statement of the last:—

"If the induction be accepted that the natural moral code exists in the mind of every human being, we may find in these laws a constantly acting principle which will account for all the phenomena of conscience. An example of the action of the laws will be the best explanation of the theory.

"A man proposes to himself to seduce his neighbour's wife. The law, 'Thou shalt not commit adultery,' is immediately present to his thoughts, the immorality and the penalty are brought by the reason into his mind, and conscience is complete (1)"

This is all that is of any real importance in his statement of his own case. We then turned to the "induction" by which this particular "natural law" was "established." It is just a page long, is this precious induction, and the pith of it lies in two remarks: one we can't quote; the other is that "the protection which marriage provided for the children is put in danger." Very sensible and true. But is not this founding the moral prohibition entirely on material consequences? Is it not flat Utilitarianism—a thing which he disclaims and writes against? And how in the world is the discus-

sion connected with that inquiry into the nature of conscience, on which subject he was so anxious to distinguish his own views from those of Whewell and Bain, and which he made his point of departure? Why, the question he has worked round to is, what makes an action moral or immoral? not, is conscience a separate original faculty—a moral sense; or is it a growth, an aggregate of derived opinions and sentiments?

We have spoken somewhat harshly, so we may as well add that we know nothing of Mr. Rowland, except that he has written a rather stupid book, which has given us a great deal of trouble.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Stock Market has been characterised by dullness throughout the week. Speculative transactions are probably influenced by the critical position of the Ministry, and will not be largely resumed until it is known whether or not the present debate will issue in a General Election. The feeling on the Stock Exchange is that Ministers will have their policy endorsed by a considerable majority.

Consols closed this evening at 90½ to 90¾ for money and the account.

The demand for discount has been only moderate until to-day, when (being the 4th of the month) there was more pressure. The rate of 6 per cent. is still maintained.

The Board of Trade returns for the past month show an increase in our exports over May, 1863, of 2,892,351L, or more than 25 per cent. The shipments of cotton yarn exhibit an increase of 58 per cent. in value and 34 per cent. in quantity, and those of manufactured cotton goods an increase of 44 and 25 per cent. respectively.

The share list of the Ebbw Vale Company (Limited) is to be closed on Monday next, the 11th inst., for London, and on Wednesday, the 13th, for the country. It is stated that "the purchase money to be paid for the work and properties amounts, under the valuation of three eminent mining engineers, to 1,600,000L."

A meeting of the Globe Insurance Company is called for the 19th instant, "for the purpose of adopting such measures as may be necessary for giving effect to the Act of Parliament of the present session, under which the Globe Insurance Company is amalgamated with Liverpool and London Insurance Company; and for the purpose of enabling the directors to bring to close the affairs of the Globe Insurance Company."

HOLLOWAY'S OINTMENT AND PILLS.—For bad legs, bad breasts, and scrofulous sores, this is a genuine specific. The grateful and earnest testimony of thousands who have experienced their unrivalled power over these complaints, and who have been raised from prostrate helplessness and a condition loathsome to themselves and others, renders it quite unnecessary to enlarge in this place upon its extraordinary virtues. The parts affected should be bathed with lukewarm water, and when the pores are thereby opened, the Ointment should be rubbed in at least twice a-day all round the complaining parts. It then penetrates to the seat of the disorder, and effects a thorough and permanent cure. These preparations are composed of rare balsams, as mild as they are efficacious. —[Advertisement.]

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, July 4.

Although the supply of wheat from home counties this morning was very small, it met a slow sale, and the prices obtained were barely equal to those current on this day last night. The trade for foreign has lost the recent activity, and sales to-day have been limited, at a decline in some instances of 1s per qr. from the rates of Monday last. Barley and beans maintain their value, supplies being small. Peas without alteration. The return shows a large arrival of foreign oats for the past week, comprising a considerable quantity from Russian ports. This has checked the upward tendency in prices; and in anticipation of further supplies, our dealers have not been anxious buyers to-day, and we quote this article fully 6d per qr. cheaper than this day week.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, LONDON, Monday, July 4.

The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 12,145 head. In the corresponding week in 1863 we received 7,323; in 1861, 9,840; in 1861, 9,592; in 1860, 11,866; in 1859, 5,939; and in 1858, 8,606 head. Our market to-day was seasonably well supplied with foreign stock, but its general stock was inferior; sales, however, were steady, at about previous currencies. The arrivals of beasts fresh up from our own grazing districts were only moderate, and there was a falling off in the condition of most breeds. The attendance of butchers was rather limited, and the beef trade was in a sluggish state, about last week's currency. The best Scots and crosses sold at from 8s 10d to 9s per 8lbs. The supply from Scotland was tolerably good, and in prime condition. From Ireland, however, the receipts were again limited. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 1,900 Scots, crosses, and shorthorns; from Lincolnshire, 500 shorthorns; from other parts of England, chiefly Hertfordshire, 600 various breeds; from Scotland, 323 Scots and crosses; and from Ireland, 100 oxen and heifers. We were fairly supplied with sheep, all breeds changed hands slowly, and in some instances prices gave way 2d per 8lbs; the best Downs, however, produced 5s 2d per 8lbs; the supply of lambs was tolerably good, and the lamb trade was inactive, at late rates—viz., 5s 8d to 6s 8d per 8lbs. Calves were in fair average supply, and in moderate request, on former terms. The demand for pigs was in a sluggish state, at last week's quotations.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s.	d.	s.	d.		s.	d.	s.	d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3	4	3	8	Prime Southdowns	5	0	5	2
Second quality	3	10	4	2	Lambs	9	8	4	8
Prime large oxen	4	4	8		Lgs. coarse calves	4	0	4	8
Prime Scots, &c.	4	10	5	0	Prime small	4	10	5	0
Coarse inf. sheep	3	6	3	10	Large hogs	3	6	4	0
Second quality	4	0	4	4	Medium porkers	4	2	4	6
Pr. coarse woolled	4	6	4	10					

Suckling calves, 16s to 21s. Quarter-old store pigs, 30s to 26c. each.

Advertisements.

THE FIFTH DIVISION OF PROFIT UP TO THE 20TH NOVEMBER, 1862.
NATIONAL PROVIDENT INSTITUTION,

GRACECHURCH-STREET, LONDON.

Established December, 1836.

MUTUAL ASSURANCE WITHOUT INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY.

DIRECTORS.

Chairman—SAMUEL HAYHURST LUCAS, Esq.
Deputy-Chairman—ROBERT INGHAM, Esq., M.P.
John Bradbury, Esq.
Henry White Castle, Esq.
Thomas Chambers, Esq., Q.C.
Joseph Felt Christy, Esq.
John Feltham, Esq.
Joseph Freeman, Esq.
Chas. Gilpin, Esq., M.P.
Chas. Reed, Esq., F.S.A.
Jonathan Thorp, Esq.
Charles Whetham, Esq.

MEDICAL OFFICERS.

Thomas Hodgkin, Esq., M.D. | John Gay, Esq., F.R.C.S.
CONSULTING ACTUARY—Charles Ansell, Esq., F.R.S.

Amount of Profit of the five years ending 20th November, 1862 £531,965 3 4

Making the total Profit divided .. £1,227,258 5 3
INSTANCES OF REDUCTIONS IN PREMIUMS.

Date of Policy.	Age.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium.	Premium now Payable.	Reduction per Cent.
		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
October, 1836	49	1,000	43 11 8	0 7 10	99
March, 1840	48	200	8 10 4	1 19 4	77
January, 1839	36	1,000	29 10 0	10 12 8	64
December, 1850	68	2,000	126 0 0	64 6 8	49
January, 1852	35	500	11 11 8	9 2 8	37½
January, 1859	49	3,000	132 0 0	98 7 10	26½

The following are a few instances wherein the Premiums have become extinct, and Annuities for the next five years granted in addition:—

Date of Policy.	Age.	Sum Assured.	Original Premium now extinct.	Annuity Payable.
		£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
April, 1836	54	1,000	52 0 0	8 3 8
August, 1836	56	500	29 3 4	9 1 3
August, 1837	60	2,000	135 3 4	75 6 3
March, 1842	61	500	32 19 2	1 17 4

Amount of Claims Paid 1,453,608 6 10
Gross Annual Income 373,387 17 10
Accumulated Fund 2,903,056 14 9

Members whose premiums fall due on the 1st JULY are reminded that the same must be paid within thirty days from that date.

The prospectus and every information may be had on application.

June 23, 1864.

JOSEPH MARSH, Secretary.



OSTEO-EIDON.

MESSRS. GABRIEL'S INVENTION.

GABRIEL'S Self-adhesive PATENT Indestructible MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE GUMS, without palates, springs, or wires, and without operation, are indestructible, and warranted for mastication or articulation, at half the usual cost.

MESSRS. GABRIEL,

THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,

27, HARLEY-STREET, CAVENDISH-SQUARE;

34, LUDGATE-HILL (over Benson's, Silversmith), LONDON; 134, DUKE-STREET, LIVERPOOL; and

65, NEW-STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

AMERICAN MINERAL TEETH, from Four to Seven and Ten to Fifteen Guineas per Set, best in Europe, warranted. Gabriel's Practical "Treatise on the Teeth" gratis.

GABRIEL'S WHITE GUTTA-PERCHA ENAMEL, chemically prepared for personal use, prevents Toothache, and arrests decay, supersedes all metallic stoppings. Prepared only by Messrs. GABRIEL, and sold by all Chemists, at 1s. 6d. per box, with directions for use, or post free Twenty Stamps.

TEETH and PAINLESS DENTISTRY.

Messrs. LEWIN MOSELY and SONS, 30, Berners-street, Oxford-street, and 448, Strand (opposite Charing-cross Railway Station), Established 1820, offer to the Public a medium for supplying Artificial Teeth on a system of PAINLESS DENTISTRY. These Teeth are cheaper, more natural, comfortable and durable than any yet produced. They are self-adhesive, affording support to Loose Teeth, rendering unnecessary either wires or ligatures, require but one visit to fit, and are supplied at prices completely defying competition. Consultation free. Teeth from 5s. Sets, 5, 7, 10, and 15 guineas, warranted. For the efficacy and success of this system, vide "Lancet." No connexion with any one of the same name.

TEETH supplied by Messrs. GODFREY received the Prize Medal awarded at the International Exhibition of 1862. One visit only required for their adjustment. They will last a life, and again restore the sunken face to its original beauty. A set from 2l. 10s. to Thirty Guineas. Stumps extracted painlessly. Teeth filled with gold—guaranteed for twenty years.

17, Hanover-street, Hanover-square, W.

REMOVAL.—Messrs. ALEX and JONES, Surgeon-Dentists, have REMOVED their practice to 53, BROOK-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE, in consequence of their premises, 31, New Bridge-street, being required by the London, Chatham and Dover Railway.

PIANOFORTES, with EASY TERMS of PURCHASE.

Honourable mention for good and cheap Pianofortes was given by the Jury at the Great International Exhibition, 1862, to MOORE and MOORE, 104, Bishopsgate-street Within, London, E.C. See the Royal Commissioners' Report. Pianofortes Extraordinary. These Pianos are of rare excellence, with the best improvements, recently applied, which effect a grand, a pure and delightful quality of tone, that stands unrivalled. Prices from Eighteen Guineas.

First-class Pianos for hire, with easy terms of purchase. A very large and choice Stock for Selection; also a variety of Second-hand Pianos at low prices.

The Best Harmoniums for Sale or Hire. Carriage free.

PEACHEY'S PIANOFORTES FOR HIRE.

CARRIAGE FREE.

Option of Purchase, on Convenient Terms, at any Period.

PEACHEY'S

CITY OF LONDON MANUFACTORY,
AND EXTENSIVE SHOW-ROOMS,73, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, LONDON, E.C.
Opposite the Marine Society.An extensive assortment of PIANOFORTES, WARRANTED
New and Second-hand. Every Description and Price.

HARMONIUMS FOR SALE OR HIRE.

* * New Grand Pianofortes for HIRE, for Concerts, Lectures, &c.

SAUCE.—LEA AND PERRINS' WORCESTERSHIRE SAUCE.

This delicious Condiment, pronounced by Connoisseurs

"THE ONLY GOOD SAUCE,"

Is prepared solely by LEA and PERRINS.

The Public are respectfully cautioned against worthless imitations, and should see that LEA and PERRINS' Names are on Wrapper, Label, Bottle, and Stopper.

ASK FOR LEA AND PERRINS' SAUCE.

* * Sold Wholesale and for Export, by the Proprietors, Worcester; Messrs. CROSSE and BLACKWELL; Messrs. Barclay and Sons, London, &c., &c., and by Grocers and Oilmen universally.

TAYLOR BROTHERS' GENUINE MUSTARD.

Dr. HASSALL, having subjected this mustard to a rigorous microscopical examination and chemical analysis, reports that it contains the three essential properties of good Mustard, viz.:—

PURITY, PUNGENCY, AND DELICATE FLAVOUR.

See that each Package bears their Trade Mark the "Prize Ox," and Dr. Hassall's Report.

Sold by all Grocers, &c., throughout the kingdom.

TAYLOR BROTHERS Brick-lane, & Wentworth-street, London, N.E.

DÎNERS À LA RUSSE.

A VARIETY OF NEW DESIGNS

IN

SILVER PLATE AND SILVER GILT
DINNER SERVICES

FOR THE SEASON 1864.

MAY BE SEEN AT

MAPPIN BROTHERS,

Silversmiths,

LONDON-BRIDGE, & 229, REGENT-STREET, W.

MANUFACTORY AT SHEFFIELD.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1810.

SECOND-HAND PLATE PURCHASED OR EXCHANGED.

CANDLES. Prize Medal. PARAFFINE.

Adopted by Her Majesty's Government for the Military Stations.

J. C. & J. FIELD,

The original Manufacturers, and holders of the 1862 Prize Medal, caution the public against any spurious imitations. Their label is on all Packets and Boxes.

Sold by all Dealers throughout the Kingdom. Wholesale and for exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their celebrated United Service Soap Tablets.

FIELD'S CELEBRATED

UNITED SERVICE SOAP TABLETS,

4d. and 6d. each, sold by all Chandlers and Grocers throughout the Kingdom; but the Public should ask for FIELD'S, and see that the name of J. C. and J. FIELD is on each Packet, Box, and Tablet.

Wholesale and for Exportation at the Works, Upper Marsh, Lambeth, London, S., where also may be obtained their Prize Medal Paraffine Candles.

THE BEST REMEDY FOR INDIGESTION.

RELIEF FOR INFANTS IN CUTTING THEIR TEETH.

MRS. JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP.—This efficacious remedy has been in general use for upwards of thirty years, and has preserved numerous children when suffering from convulsions arising from painful Dentition. As soon as the syrup is rubbed on the gums, the child will be relieved, the gums cooled, and the inflammation reduced. It is as innocent as efficacious, tending to produce the teeth with ease; and so pleasant that no child will refuse to let its gums be rubbed with it. Parents should be very particular to ask for JOHNSON'S AMERICAN SOOTHING SYRUP, and to notice that the names of BAZ-CLAY and SONS, 95, Farringdon-street, London (to whom Mrs. Johnson has sold the recipe), are on the stamp affixed to each bottle. Price 2s. 9d. per bottle.

ROCHE'S HERBAL EMBROCATION.

AN EFFECTUAL CURE for the HOOPING COUGH, without internal medicine.

This is the only discovery affording a perfect cure without administering internal Medicine, the difficulty and inconvenience of which, in all disorders particularly incident to Children, are too well known to need any comment. The Inventor and Proprietor of this EMBROCATION can with pleasure and satisfaction declare that its salutary effects have been so universally experienced, and so generally acknowledged, that many of the most eminent of the Faculty now constantly recommend it as the only known safe and perfect cure, without restriction of diet, or use of medicine.

For the protection of the public, and to prevent imposition, "J. ROCHE" is signed on the Label outside each Bottle, and the name of the sole Wholesale Agent, "Edwards, 67, St. Paul's," engraved on the Government Stamp. Price 4s. per Bottle. Sold by most respectable Chemists, and dealers in medicines.

FURNITURE CATALOGUE.

SEE THE "COURT CIRCULAR" FOR JAN. 16.

EXTRACT:

"Among the latest productions of what may be denominated 'trade literature,' we have just been favoured with a copy of the new Illustrated Catalogue of 'The General Furnishing and Upholstery Company.' It is a most carefully-compiled and artistically-executed work; and not the least important feature of it is the perfect truthfulness with which every object is represented. The attainment of excellence has evidently been the aim in the production of this guide; and, if the general business of the company is conducted on the same principles, and with equal liberality, the spirited proprietors certainly deserve all the encouragement which such a policy is calculated to secure."

THE GENERAL FURNISHING AND UPHOLSTERY COMPANY
(Limited),

24 AND 25, BAKER-STREET, W.

CATALOGUES FREE ON APPLICATION.

W. F. THOMAS AND CO.'S PATENT SEWING MACHINES.

FOR FAMILY AND MANUFACTURING PURPOSES.—(PRIZE MEDAL).

Constructed on principles which the experience of fifteen years has proved to be sound, and improved by recent modifications, these Machines maintain the high reputation which they acquired on their first introduction. They are adapted for Trade Purposes and for Family Use, and the work produced (alike on both sides) is unequalled for strength, beauty, regularity, and durability. HEMMING, BINDING, GATHERING, &c., may be accomplished with facility. Illustrated Catalogues and Specimens of the Work may be obtained of the Patentees,

W. F. THOMAS AND CO.,

66, NEWGATE-STREET, AND REGENT-CIRCUS, OXFORD-STREET, LONDON.

Charitable Institutions, &c., liberally treated.

FURNISH YOUR HOUSE WITH THE BEST ARTICLES

AT

DEANE'S.

DEANE'S—Celebrated Table Cutlery, every variety of style and finish.

DEANE'S—Electro-plated Spoons and Forks, best manufacture, strongly plated.

DEANE'S—Electro-plate Tea and Coffee Sets, Liqueur Stands, Cruets, Cake Baskets, &c.

DEANE'S—Dish Covers and Hot-water Dishes. Prices of Tin Dish Covers in sets, 18s., 30s., 40s., 63s., 78s.

DEANE'S—Papier Maché Tea Trays in sets, from 21s., new and elegant patterns constantly introduced.

DEANE'S—Bronzed Tea and Coffee Urns, with Loysell's and other patent improvements.

DEANE'S—Copper and Brass Goods, Kettles, Stew and Preserving Pans, Stockpots, &c.

DEANE'S—Moderator and Rock Oil Lamps, a large and handsome assortment.

DEANE'S—Gas Chandeliers, newly-designed patterns in Glass and Bronze—three-light glass from 63s.

DEANE'S—Domestic Baths for every purpose. Bath-rooms fitted complete.

DEANE'S—Fenders and Fire-irons, in all modern and approved patterns.

DEANE'S—Bedsteads in Iron and Brass, with Bedding of superior quality.

DEANE'S—Register Stoves, improved London-made Kitcheners, Range, &c.

DEANE'S—Cornices and Cornice-poles, a variety of patterns. French and English.

DEANE'S—Tin and Japan Goods, Iron Ware, and Culinary Utensils.

DEANE'S—Turnery, Brushes, Mats, &c., well made, strong, and serviceable.

DEANE'S—Horticultural Tools, Lawn Mowers, Garden Rollers, Wire-work, &c.

DEANE'S—Harness, Saddles, and Horse Clothing, manufactured on their own premises, and of the very best material.

NEW ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE AND PRICED FURNISHING LIST GRATIS AND POST FREE.

Established A.D. 1700.

DEANE AND CO. (Opening to the Monument), LONDON-BRIDGE.

STARCH MANUFACTURERS

TO H.R.H. THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

GLENFIELD PATENT STARCH

Used in the Royal Laundry

AND AWARDED THE PRIZE MEDAL, 1862.

BEAUTIFUL HAIR.—CHURCHER'S

TOILET CREAM maintains its superiority for imparting richness, softness, and fragrance to the Hair, as well as being a most economical article. Price 1s., 1s. 6d., and 6s. Batchelor's Instantaneous Columbian Hair Dye is the best extant, 4s. 6d., 7s., and 14s. per packet. Sold by Hairdressers, and at R. HOVENDEN'S, No. 5, Great Marlborough-street, W.; and 93 and 95, City-road, E.C. N.B.—Wholesale warehouse for all Hairdressers' goods.

HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE! HAIR DYE!

GILLINGWATER'S ATROPILATORY is the best Hair Dye in England. Grey, red, or rusty hair dyed instantly to a beautiful and natural brown or black without the least injury to hair or skin, and the ill effects of bad dyes remedied. Sold by all Chemists and Perfumers of repute, and by the Proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station in the kingdom, in cases, 3s. 6d., 6s. 6d., and 10s. 6d. each. Beware of Counterfeits.

HAIR DESTROYER for removing super-

fluous hair on the face, neck, and arms. This real disfigurement, female beauty is effectually removed by this article, which is easily applied, and certain in effect. In Boxes, with directions for use, 3s. 6d. each. Sent free to any railway station, and may be had of Perfumers and Chemists, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Beware of Counterfeits.

BALDNESS PREVENTED.—GILLING-

WATER'S QUININE POMADE prepared with cantharides restores the hair in all cases of sudden baldness, or bald patches where no visible signs of roots exist, and prevents the hair falling off. In bottles 3s. 6d. and 6s. 6d. each. May be had of all Chemists and Perfumers, and of the proprietor, W. Gillingwater, 353 (late 96), Goswell-road. Sent free to any railway station. Beware of Counterfeits.

NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS are confi-

dently recommended as a simple but certain remedy for Indigestion. They act as a powerful Tonic and gentle Aperient, are mild in their operation, safe under any circumstances, and thousands of persons can now bear testimony to the benefits to be derived from their use. Sold in bottles at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., and 11s. each, in every town in the kingdom.

CAUTION! Be sure to ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase the various imitations.

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

WHITE'S MOC-MAIN PATENT

LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day; 4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from observation.

"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College, Surgeon to King's College Hospital, &c.; C. G. Guthrie, Esq., Surgeon to the Royal Westminster Ophthalmic Hospital; W. Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's Hospital; W. Coulson, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the Magdalen Hospital; T. Blizard Curling, Esq., F.R.S., Surgeon to the London Hospital; W. J. Fisher, Esq., Surgeon-in-Chief to the Metropolitan Police Force; Aston Key, Esq., Surgeon to Prince Albert; Robert Liston, Esq., F.R.S.; James Luke, Esq., Surgeon to the London Truss Society; Erasmus Wilson, Esq., F.R.S.; and many others.

A descriptive Circular may be had by post, and the Truss which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the Manufacturer,

Mr. WHITE, 228, PICCADILLY, LONDON.

Price of a Single Truss, 16s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d. Postage, 1s.

Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage 1s. 8d.

Price of an Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage 1s. 10d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post Office, Piccadilly.

NEW PATENT

ELASTIC STOCKINGS, KNEE-CAPS, &c

The material of which these are made is recommended by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARIOUS VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture, and inexpensive, and is drawn on like an ordinary stocking. Price 4s. 6d., 7s. 6d. 10s., to 16s. each. Postage 6d.

John White, Manufacturer, 228, Piccadilly, London.

IN CASES OF NERVOUSNESS, PARR'S LIFE PILLS will be found an agreeable and perfect remedy. May be had of any Chemist.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.

Patron: His Royal Highness the Prince of WALES.
The Christian Allegory of "The Knight Watching his Armour"—occasionally The Ghosts of Shakespeare—The Ghost of the Diving Bell, Heineke's patent diving dress—The Lilliputian Ghost, a few inches high, in Professor Pepper's New Ghost Lecture Entertainment (John Henry Pepper and Henry Dicks, joint inventors). Stokes on Memory. Mr. G. W. Jester's Ventriloquial Entertainment. Mr. George Buckland's New Romantic and Musical Entertainment, daily at Four and Nine. Open Twelve to Five, and Seven to Ten. Admission (Saturday Mornings inclusive), 1s.

COALS.—Best Sunderland, 23s.; Newcastle or Hartlepool, 22s.; best Silkestone, 21s.; Clay Cross, 21s. and 19s.; Coke, per chaldron, 14s.
B. HIBBERDINE, Sussex and Union Wharfs, Regent's park; Chief Offices: 169 and 266, Tottenham-court-road.

COALS.—Best Coals only. —GEO. J. COCKERELL and Co.'s price is now 24s. per ton cash for the BEST SCREENED COALS, as supplied by them to her Majesty and H. R. H. the Prince of Wales—13, Cornhill, E.C.; Purfleet-wharf, Earl-street, Blackfriars, E.C.; Eaton-wharf, Grosvener-canal, Pimlico, S.W.; Sunderland-wharf, Peckham, S.E.; and Durham-wharf, Wandsworth, S.W.; and at Brighton.

COALS.—By SCREW STEAMERS and RAILWAY.—LEA and CO.'S Lowest Summer price for HETTON, HASWELL, or LAMBTON WALLSEND, the best House Coal direct from the Collieries by screw steamers, or the Great Northern Railway, is 23s. per ton: Hartlepool, 22s.; Silkestone, first-class, 21s.; second-class, 20s.; Clay Cross, 21s. and 19s.; Tanfield Moor, for Smiths, 18s.; Barnsley, 18s.; Hartley, 17s.; best small, 13s. Coke, 14s. per chaldron, Net cash. Delivered, thoroughly screened, to any part of London. All orders to LEA and COMPANY'S Offices, Highbury, N.; Kingsland, N.E.; Great Northern Railway Coal Department, King's-cross, N.; and 4 and 5 Wharves, Regent's-park Basin, N.W. No Travellers or Agents employed.

"EXCELSIOR" FAMILY SEWING-MACHINE.

Sews from two ordinary Spools, requires no re-winding, finishes its work where it stops, and the seam, if cut a very inch, will not rip. It is eminently adapted for Family Sewing, and is so easily managed that a child can work it with facility. It will Hem, Fell, Stitch, Gather, Quilt, and Embroider in a very superior manner, and with the most wonderful rapidity.

Price, complete, from Six Guineas.

WHIGHT and MANN, 143, HOLBORN BARS, LONDON.
Manufactory: Gipping Works, Ipswich.

SEWING MACHINES of the very First Class, of American and Workmanlike, in each of the various sizes, for cloth, linen, leather, and all kinds of work, and all kinds of Prime Metal Machines, and all kinds of Sewing Machines, can always be depended on. All goods warranted, and delivered carriage and packing free to any house in the kingdom.

THE EASIEST BOOTS and SHOES in the WORLD are M. HALL'S PATENT PANNUS CORIUM, which never draw the feet or cause the least pain to corns or bunions. Also the finest Bordeaux Calf, prepared expressly for ease. Cash prices for either kind. Side-spring boots, 21s.; Oxonian shoes, 12s. 6d. The very best workmanship, materials, and style. Address M. Hall, 54, Bishopsgate-street Within.

TRADE MARK.

BROWN and POLSON'S

PATENT CORN FLOUR.

Brown and Polson trust that the superior quality of their Corn Flour will still secure that preference which it has hitherto maintained, and also protect them from the substitution of other kinds which are sometimes urged upon families to obtain extra profit by the sale. Brown and Polson's is supplied by the most respectable Tea Dealers, Grocers, Chemists, &c., in every town in the kingdom.

THE ROYAL OSBORNE (PATENT) MIXTURE OF TEAS.

6lbs. Sent to any part of England carriage free.

Agents wanted in all Towns where there are none appointed.
FRANKS, SON, and CO., 40, Queen-street, Cannon-street West.

HORNIMAN'S PURE TEA

It is CHOICE and STRONG, BECAUSE it consists of most valuable growths that are full of rich essential properties.

It is MODERATE in PRICE, BECAUSE it is supplied direct from the importers to the consumers by Agents.

It is WHOLESOME to use, BECAUSE the leaf is not faced with the usual powdered mineral colours.

These COMBINED ADVANTAGES have secured for this Tea a general preference. It is sold in sealed packets, with the price printed on each, and signed—

Horniman & Co.

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